#### Case 09-18086-RGM Doc 649 Filed 08/08/13 Entered 08/08/13 11:06:49 Desc Main

### Document Page 1 of 161 In re: Gordon Properties, LLC and Condominium Services, Inc., Debtors in Possession

U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia Case No. 09-18086-RGM

#### DOCUMENT APPENDIX TO REPORT OF EXAMINER

Tab No.	<b>Document Description</b>	Date	Case No. and Caption
1	AAA Arbitration Demand	12/9/2011	AAA Case No. 16 0783 00744 11
2	Administrative Resolution No. 2012-02	6/24/2012	
3	Administrative Resolution No. 2012-03	6/24/2012	
4	Administrative Resolution No. 2012-06	10/3/2012	
5	Bylaws of First Owners' Association		
6	Complaint	9/15/2011	First Owners' Association v. Gordon
			Residential Holdings, LLC, Case No. 11-004411 (Alex. Circuit Court)
7	Complaint	10/7/2011	Gordon Properties, LLC v. Board of
			Directors of First Owners' Association, et
			al., Case No. 11-004700 (Alex. Circuit
			Court)
8	Complaint	12/6/2012	Sobel, et al. v. Sells, et al., Case No. 12-
			005183 (Alex. Circuit Court)
9	Complaint	9/28/2012	First Owners' Association v. Cuandros, et
			al., Case No. 12-004429 (Alex. Circuit
			Court)
10	Declaration of Forty Six Hundred Condominium		
11	Joint Motion to Approve the Settlement Agreement	1/28/2013	In re: Gordon Properties, Case No. 09-18086
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
12	Letter Opinion	2/23/2009	Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners'
			Association, et al., Case No. 08-0011432
			(Alex. Circuit Court)
13	Letter Opinion	4/3/2009	Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners'
			Association, et al., Case No. 08-0011432
			(Alex. Circuit Court)
14	Memorandum in Support of Motion to Reconsider Order	4/30/2013	In re: Gordon Properties, Case No. 09-18086
	Appointing Amicus Curiae		(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)

#### Case 09-18086-RGM Doc 649 Filed 08/08/13 Entered 08/08/13 11:06:49 Desc Main

## Document Page 2 of 161 In re: Gordon Properties, LLC and Condominium Services, Inc., Debtors in Possession U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia

### Case No. 09-18086-RGM

Tab No.	<b>Document Description</b>	Date	Case No. and Caption
15	Minutes from Organizational Meeting	6/17/2012	
16	Minutes from Board Meeting	6/19/2012	
17	Minutes from Special Meeting	6/24/2012	
18	Minutes from Special Meeting	9/3/2012	
19	Minutes from Board Meeting	9/18/2012	
20	Minutes from Organizational Meeting	10/3/2012	
21	Minutes from Board Meeting	10/16/2012	
22	Minutes from Board Meeting	4/16/2013	
23	Order (Memorandum Opinion)	9/20/2011	Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners' Association, et al., Adv. Proc. No. 11-1020
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
24	Order (Granting Relief from Automatic Stay)	1/3/2012	In re: Gordon Properties, Case No. 09-18086
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
25	Order (First Board Order)	6/15/2012	Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners'
			Association, et al., Adv. Proc. No. 11-1020
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
26	Order (Amended Board Order)	7/23/2012	Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners'
			Association, et al., Adv. Proc. No. 11-1020
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
27	Order (Referring Case to Mediation)	9/13/2012	In re: Gordon Properties, Case No. 09-18086
			(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)
28	Order (Nonsuit)	10/31/2012	1 /
			Directors of the First Owners' Association,
			et al., Case No. 11-004700 (Alex. Circuit
20	D.1' D. 1.' M. 2000.02	2/26/2000	Court)
29	Policy Resolution No. 2009-03	3/26/2009	
30	Settlement Agreement	12/11/2012	I G 1 B 2 G 10006
31	Supplemental Order Directing the Appointment of an	6/4/2013	In re: Gordon Properties, Case No. 09-18086
	Examiner		(U.S. Bankruptcy Court for E.D. Va.)

# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 1

## Real Estate Industry Rules ARBITRATION RULES (ENTER THE NAME OF THE APPLICABLE RULES) Demand for Arbitration

MEDIATION: If you wou	ld like th	e AAA to contact the othe	er parties and attempt to arrange m	ediation	please check this h	2x. [7]
There is no duditional duni	inistrativ	e fee for this service.			, p	, <u> </u>
Name of Respondent Gordon Residential Holdings, L	LC		Name of Representative (if known Michael L. Zupan	wn)	<u> </u>	-
Address: c/o Registered Agent William T.	. Freyvoge	·!	Name of Firm (if applicable): Mercer Trigiani LLP			1
8200 Greensboror Drive, Suite	325		Representative's Address 112 South Alfred Street			1
City	State	Zip Code	0.11	C4-4-	7: 0 1	
McLean	VA	22102	Alexandria	State VA	Zip Code 22314	
Phone No.		Fax No.	Phone No. 703-837-5000		Fax No. 703-837-5001	
Email Address:			Email Address: Michael.Zupan@mercertrigiani.com		700-007-0001	
The named claimant, a party	to an ar	bitration agreement dated	11.10.75 and Order of 11.23.11 w	hich pro	vides for arbitration	under the
THE NATURE OF THE DI	SDITTE	Arbitration Rules	s of the American Arbitration Associ	iation, l	hereby demands arbi	tration.
First Owners' Association of Ford Complaint setting forth the partic	tv Six Hun	dred Condominium, Inc. ("F0 OA's claims.	OA") brings a declaratory judgment actio	n against	the Respondent. See	attached
Dollar Amount of Claim \$0	0.00		Other Relief Sought: Attorned Arbitration Costs Punitiv	eys Fees	☐ Interest	ratrov Juda
Amount Enclosed \$3,350.00		In accordance with Fee S			andard Fee Schedule	1
PLEASE DESCRIBE APPROPRIA Experience with the Virginia Con Associations.	TE QUAL	IFICATIONS FOR ARBITRA Act (Va. Code Section 55-3	TOR(S) TO BE APPOINTED TO HEAR T 9, et seq.), condominium documents, an	HIS DISF	PUTE: vernance of Condomini	ım
Hearing locale Wash. D.C. Reg	gional Offi	ce (check one) 🖼 F	Requested by Claimant    Locale p	rovision	included in the con	tract
Estimated time needed for he	arings o		Type of Business: Claimant Boa			<del></del>
hours or2.0	00da	ys	Respondentu			
Is this a dispute between a bu Does this dispute arise out of	an empl	yment relationship?	□Yes ⊠No □Yes ⊠No			
of cantelina law. Libess than	1 4100,0	00 LI \$100,000 - \$250,00	vas/is the employee's annual wage r			i
to file an answering statem	ent.	inmence administration	nent and this demand are being filed of the arbitration. The AAA will pr	l with th	ne American Arbitrat otice of your opportu	ion inity
Signature (may be signed by a	represe	ntative) Date:	Name of Representative		<del></del>	<u> </u>
	M	19/9/11	Michael S. Dingman			;
Name of Claimant  First Owners' Association of Forty	SixHundr	ed Condominium, Inc.	Name of Firm (if applicable) Reed Smith LLP		<del></del>	
Address (to be used in connect 4600 Duke Street	tion with	this case):	Representative's Address: 3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400			<del></del>
City Alexandria	State VA	Zip Code 22304	City Falls Church	State	Zip Code	
Phone No.		Fax No.	Phone No.	VA	222042 Fax No.	•
703-751-4600 Email Address:	<u>,</u>	703-823-2429	703-641-4323		703-641-4340	;
ndingman@reedsmith.com			Email Address:		<u> </u>	: 1
To begin proceedings, please s	end a co	ov of this Demand and +1	mdingman@reedsmith.com ne Arbitration Agreement, along with	u		!
Please visit our website at www.ac	ir.org if y	ou would like to file this ca	se online. AAA Case Filing Services of	an be rea	ached at 877-495-4185	pondent,

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#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC., Plaintiff,	- ) ) ) )
v.  GORDON RESIDENTIAL HOLDINGS, LLC, Serve: William T. Freyvogel, Registered Agent 8200 Greensboro Drive Suite 325 McLean, Virginia 22102	) Civil Case No ) ) ) ) ) )
Defendant.	) ) )

#### COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. ("FOA"), by counsel, pursuant to Virginia Code § 8.01-184, et seq., seeks declaratory judgment against Defendant, Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC ("Gordon Residential"), and in support thereof states as follows:

- 1. Forty Six Hundred Condominium is a mixed-use condominium located at 4600 Duke Street in Alexandria, Virginia that is comprised of over 400 units and that was created in 1975 pursuant to the Declaration attached as **Exhibit 1** to this Complaint (the "Condominium").
- 2. FOA is a Virginia non-stock corporation formed pursuant to the requirements of the condominium instruments and § 55-79.73A of the Virginia Condominium Act to oversee the management of the Condominium as its unit owners' association.



- Gordon Residential is a Virginia limited liability company that owns one unit in the Condominium known as unit 1518 which it acquired from Gordon Properties, LLC on August 7, 2008.
- 4. Gordon Properties, LLC is a Virginia limited liability company that owns approximately 38 units in the Condominium.
- Bryan Sells is the managing member of both Gordon Properties, LLC and Gordon
   Residential.
- 6. At least some of the members of Gordon Residential are also members of Gordon Properties, LLC.
- 7. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of FOA's Bylaws, attached as **Exhibit 2**, FOA holds its annual meeting on the first Wednesday of each October. One of the purposes of the annual meeting, assuming the required quorum is attained, is the election of members of FOA to serve on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 8. FOA has scheduled its 2011 annual meeting for October 5, 2011 at which, if a quorum is attained, the Board of Directors will be elected. Gordon Residential has identified five candidates to run for election to FOA's Board of Directors. The five candidates are Deneta Sells, Moneta Howard, Eliza Langdon, Brandy Greenwell and Nick Greenwell. Gordon Residential maintains that they are all officers of Gordon Residential.
  - 9. Deneta Sells is the wife of Bryan Sells.
- 10. Brandy Greenwell is the sister of Bryan Sells and is a member of Gordon Properties, LLC.

- 11. On March 26, 2009, FOA's Board of Directors adopted Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, attached as Exhibit 3, to bring together and to clarify the requirements for service on the Board of Directors already contained in the Condominium Act and the condominium instruments. The resolution states, in part, that a member of FOA, either a natural or non-natural person, may have only one position or one representative on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. Therefore, for example, a non-natural entity such as Gordon Residential is entitled to one representative on the Board of Directors, assuming that person is elected pursuant to the Bylaws of FOA.
- 12. The portion of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 providing that a member may only have one position on FOA's Board of Directors is simply a restatement of the requirements of provisions of the Virginia Condominium Act and FOA's Bylaws defining a member and unit owner.
- 13. Article III, "Membership," Section 1 of FOA's Bylaws, "Members" states: "Every person, group of persons, corporation, trust or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which owns a condominium unit within the condominium project shall be a member of the owners association . . . ." This provision makes clear that a non-natural person (such as a limited liability company) or group of persons is deemed a single unit owner or member.
- 14. Article V "Directors," Section 1 of FOA's Bylaws, "Numbers and Qualification" states: "The affairs of the Owners' Association shall be governed by the Board of Directors (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Board of Directors") composed of at least seven (7) natural persons who shall (after the first annual meeting of members) be members of the Owners' Association. At least one of the Directors, but not more than two, shall be owners of Commercial Condominium Units . . ."

- 15. Section 55-79.78B of the Virginia Condominium Act states: "If the condominium instruments provide that any officer or officers must be unit owners, then notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of Section 55-79.50, the term "unit owner" in such context shall, unless the condominium instruments otherwise provide, be deemed to include, without limitation, any director, officer, partner and/or trustee of any person which is, either alone or in conjunction with another person or persons, a unit owner." In short, this provision provides, consistent with the provisions of FOA's Bylaws, that a non-natural person or a group of persons who own a unit are deemed a single unit owner.
- 16. Gordon Residential is running five of its officers and/or members who are intended to serve simultaneously on the Board of Directors, assuming they obtain the requisite votes at the upcoming annual meeting. In other words, upon information and belief, it is Gordon Residential's position that although it owns a single residential unit, because it is a non-natural person, it is entitled to seek five seats on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 17. It is FOA's position that the Declaration and Bylaws of FOA, as well as the Condominium Act, as set forth in Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, limit Gordon Residential to one representative on the Board of Directors at any given time. It is FOA's position that a "member" of FOA, whether a natural or non-natural person, is entitled to only one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.
- 18. Members of FOA have asked FOA's Elections Committee and individual Board members whether Gordon Residential is entitled to have five people hold positions on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 19. There is a justiciable controversy between FOA and Gordon Residential regarding the issue of whether Gordon Residential is entitled to have five representatives sit on FOA's

Board of Directors and whether a single member can have multiple representatives on FOA's Board of Directors. Resolution of this issue is critical to the upcoming 2011 annual meeting because more than a dozen candidates are running for election to the Board of Directors and whether Gordon Residential is entitled to five seats on the Board of Directors will directly impact those candidates and may affect the results of the election of FOA's Board of Directors.

- 20. Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 further states that entities who are "affiliated" as defined in the Policy Resolution may only collectively have one representative on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. The purpose of this portion of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is to prevent any member owning more than one unit from doing indirectly what it could not do directly, effectively making an "end run" around the requirements of FOA's condominium instruments, and the Virginia Condominium Act, that limit a member of FOA to one seat on the Board of Directors at any given time.
- 21. The FOA Board of Directors has authority pursuant to Article V, Section 3 of FOA's Bylaws to promulgate resolutions necessary for the administration of FOA's affairs.

  Article V, Section 3 of FOA's Bylaws states: "The Board of Directors shall have all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the owners' association and the condominium project and may do all acts and things as are not by law or by these Bylaws directed to be exercised and done by the members."
- 22. The portion of Policy Resolution 2009-03 limiting "affiliates" to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time was implemented by FOA's Board of Directors to ensure that no single entity or group of related entities could dominate the Board of Directors and prevent representation of a wide range of interests of the over 400 unit owners. Otherwise, a member owning more than one unit could circumvent this limitation by conveying units to

related entities. Such a subterfuge would defeat these limitations and is properly prohibited by Policy Resolution No. 2009-03.

- 23. Gordon Properties, LLC has owned in excess of 40 units at the Condominium and currently owns approximately 38 units. On November 6, 2009 Gordon Properties, LLC conveyed one of its units at the Condominium to its managing member, Bryan Sells. On August 7, 2008 Gordon Properties, LLC conveyed one of its residential units to Gordon Residential.
- 24. The conveyance by Gordon Properties, LLC of units to Bryan Sells individually and to Gordon Residential was a subterfuge to evade the limitation set forth in FOA's condominium instruments, and the Virginia Condominium Act, limiting a member to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. There was no commercial or business reason for these conveyances; they were simply undertaken to evade the limitation of one member/one representative on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 25. Gordon Properties, LLC is running a candidate for FOA's Board of Directors, Lindsay Wilson. Bryan Sells is running as an individual for election to FOA's Board of Directors. Gordon Residential has nominated five individuals to run for positions on FOA's Board of Directors. Thus, these affiliated persons are seeking every seat on FOA's sevenmember Board of Directors.
- 26. Upon information and belief, Gordon Residential has taken the position that Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is invalid and unenforceable, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.
- 27. It is FOA's position that Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is valid in its entirety, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.

28. There is a justiciable controversy between FOA and Gordon Residential regarding the validity of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. It is critical to resolve this controversy prior to the 2011 annual meeting because the resolution of this issue will impact which candidates may be elected to and may serve on FOA's Board of Directors. If this issue is not resolved and multiple directors are elected by one member or affiliated group, it could call into question the validity of the Board of Directors and any actions taken by that Board.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium,
Inc. respectfully requests that this Court enter declaratory judgment in its favor and against
Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC declaring the following:

- A. The condominium instruments establishing the Condominium, and the Virginia Condominium Act, limit a member of FOA to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time and, therefore, Gordon Residential may have only one representative serve on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time;
- B. Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 was validly enacted by FOA and is enforceable and binding in its entirety;
- C. Gordon Residential may not have a representative serve on FOA's Board of Directors if Bryan Sells, individually, or a representative of Gordon Properties, LLC, is elected to serve on FOA's Board of Directors; and
- D. That the Court make such further and additional declarations, and provide such additional remedies, as are just and necessary.

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC. By Counsel

REED SMITH LLP

Michael S. Dingman (VSB # 30031) Robert M. Diamond (VSB # 16036)

Helenanne Connolly (VSB # 70911)

3110 Fairview Park Drive

Suite 1400

Falls Church, Virginia 22042 Telephone: 703-641-4200 Facsimile: 703-641-4340

Email: mdingman@reedsmith.com

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VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC.,	)
Plaintiff,	)
<b>v.</b>	) Civil No. CL 2011 00 4411
GORDON RESIDENTIAL HOLDINGS, LLC	)
Defendant.	) )

#### **ORDER**

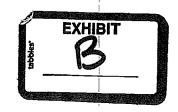
THIS CASE CAME before the Court on October 26, 2011, upon the Motion to Stay All Proceedings and to Compel Arbitration filed by Defendant Gordon Residential Holding, LLC; and

UPON CONSIDERATION of the Motion to Stay All Proceedings and to Compel
Arbitration and supporting memoranda, Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion to Stay All Proceedings
and to Compel Arbitration, and the oral argument of counsel;

IT APPEARING that Defendant's Motion should be granted in part and denied in part, as set forth in the Court's November 1, 2011 letter opinion, a copy of which is attached hereto.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the part of Defendant's Motion seeking to compel arbitration be and hereby is granted, and the parties are directed to arbitrate all matters raised in the Complaint pursuant to Article XVII, Section 8 of the Bylaws of First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all further proceedings in the Circuit Court are stayed, except that the Preliminary Injunction entered by the Court on October 3, 2011, shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Court.



IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. shall commence such arbitration by December 16, 2011, and if arbitration is not commenced by December 16, 2011, the Preliminary Injunction is dissolved.

ENTERED this AO day of November 2011.

Honorable Lisa B. Kemler, Judge, Alexandria Circuit Court

SEEN AND OBJECTED TO WITH RESPECT TO THAT PART OF THE COURT'S RULING AND ORDER THAT MAINTAINS THE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION IN EFFECT, FOR THE REASONS STATED IN THE MOTION, THE MEMORANDUM, AND IN ORAL ARGUMENT:

MERCERTRIGIANI LLP

David S. Mercer (VSB # 19323)

Michael L. Zupan (VSB # 24962)

112 South Alfred Street

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Tel: 703-837-5000 Fax: 703-837-5001

Counsel for Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC

SEEN AND OBJECTED TO AS TO THE COURT'S RULING GRANTING THE STAY AND COMPELLING ARBITRATION:

REED SMITH LLP

Michael Dingman (VSW# 3003X) W/ Pww

Helenanne Connolly (VSB # 70911)

3110 Fairview Park Drive

Suite 1400

Falls Church, Virginia 22042

Fax: 703-641-4340

Counsel for First Owners' Association of Forty

Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

### Circuit Court of Alexandria Virginia

Judges DONALD M. HADDOCK LISA BONDAREFF KEMLER NOLAN B. DAWKINS



Courthouse 520 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3164 (703) 746-4123

November 1, 2011

Michael S. Dingman, Esquire REED SMITH LLP 3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400 Falls Church, VA 22042

Michael Zupan, Esquire Mercer Trigiani 112 South Alfred Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

v. Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC, Civil Case No.: CL11004411

#### Counsel:

Before the Court is the motion of Defendant Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC ("RCH") to stay all proceedings and to compel arbitration, and the opposition thereto filed by Plaintiff First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. After hearing argument on the motion and opposition, the Court took the matter under advisement. Upon further consideration of the applicable provisions of the Condominium Act (Virginia Code § 55-79.39, et seq.), the condominium instruments, pertinent case law, the parties' memoranda and arguments, the Court grants RCH's motion to compel arbitration and stay the proceedings in this matter, but continues the Preliminary Injunction issued on October 3, 2011, until further order of the Court.

Counsel are directed to prepare an Order consistent with the rulings in this letter, to which counsel may note any objections, endorse the same and submit it to the Court for entry with seven (7) days hereof.

Very truly yours,

hisa B. Kenler

Lisa B. Kemler

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC.,

Plaintiff,

٧.

Civil No. CL 2011 00 4411

GORDON RESIDENTIAL HOLDINGS, LLC

Defendant.

#### **ORDER**

THIS CASE CAME before the Court on October 26, 2011, upon the Motion to Stay All Proceedings and to Compel Arbitration filed by Defendant Gordon Residential Holding, LLC; and

UPON CONSIDERATION of the Motion to Stay All Proceedings and to Compel
Arbitration and supporting memoranda, Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion to Stay All Proceedings
and to Compel Arbitration, and the oral argument of counsel;

IT APPEARING that Defendant's Motion should be granted in part and denied in part, as set forth in the Court's November 1, 2011 letter opinion, a copy of which is attached hereto.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the part of Defendant's Motion seeking to compel arbitration be and hereby is granted, and the parties are directed to arbitrate all matters raised in the Complaint pursuant to Article XVII, Section 8 of the Bylaws of First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all further proceedings in the Circuit Court are stayed, except that the Preliminary Injunction entered by the Court on October 3, 2011, shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. shall commence such arbitration by December 16, 2011, and if arbitration is not commenced by December 16, 2011, the Preliminary Injunction is dissolved.

ENTERED this \_\_\_\_ day of November 2011.

Honorable Lisa B. Kemler, Judge, Alexandria Circuit Court

SEEN AND OBJECTED TO WITH RESPECT TO THAT PART OF THE COURT'S RULING AND ORDER THAT MAINTAINS THE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION IN EFFECT, FOR THE REASONS STATED IN THE MOTION, THE MEMORANDUM, AND IN ORAL ARGUMENT:

MERCERTRIGIANI LLP

David S. Mercer (VSB # 13323) Michael L. Zupan (VSB # 24962) 112 South Alfred Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Tel: 703-837-5000 Fax: 703-837-5001

Counsel for Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC

SEEN AND OBJECTED TO AS TO THE COURT'S RULING GRANTING THE STAY AND COMPELLING ARBITRATION:

REED SMITH LLP

Michael Dingman (VSB # 30031)

Helenanne Connolly (VSB # 70911)

3110 Fairview Park Drive

Suite 1400

Falls Church, Virginia 22042

Fax: 703-641-4340

Counsel for First Owners' Association of Forty

Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

2

#64311

12/01/2011 FIRST OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF 4600 DUKE CONDOMINIUM Invoice Date FIRST OWNERS ASSOCIATION DO NOT CASH IF THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT HAV 12/01/2011 120111-58 Invoice Number Check 58 00500833 Voucher # Description AMARAS AMERICAN ARBITRATION 006611 ARBITRATOR 3,350.00 3,350.00 006611 Amount

VIRGINIA COMMERCE BANK ANNANDALE, VA 22003

12/01/2011

PAY: Three Thousand Three Hundred Fifty and no/100 DOLLARS

WOODBRIDGE VA 22192

C/O CARDINAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

4330 PRINCE WILLIAM PKWY #201

\$3,350.00

ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON, DC 20006 AMERICAN ARBITRATION 1776 I NW STREET, SUITE 850

ORDER

THE

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AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE - NOT VALID AFTER 90 DAYS

THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS DOCUMENT MUST HAVE A TRUE WATERMARK. THIS PAPER IS ALTERATION PROTECTED. \*\*

# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 2

### FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO. 2012-02 "APPOINTING SPECIAL LITIGATION COMMITTEE"

#### RECITALS

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The First Owners' Association, Inc. ("FOA" or the "Association") is engaged in pending litigation and arbitration with Gordon Properties LLC ("Gordon Properties") and Gordon Residential Holdings LLC ("Gordon Residential"), each of which is a member of the Association, and with Condominium Services, Inc. ("CSI"), a former managing agent of the Association.
- B. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia has found that the Association, acting through its former Board of Directors, willfully violated the United States Bankruptcy Code by denying Gordon Properties its right to vote at FOA's 2010 annual meeting. See Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. (In re Gordon Properties, LLC) 460 B.R. 681 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 2011).
- C. The individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors are the defendants in a pending lawsuit brought against them by Gordon Properties.
- D. Two members of FOA's current Board of Directors, Lucia Hadley and F.J. Pepper, are among those individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors who have been sued by Gordon Properties and whose conduct, together with other members of FOA's former Board of Directors, was found to be a willful violation of law.
- E. Four other members of FOA's current board of directors, Elizabeth Greenwell, Dennis Howland, Bryan Sells, and Lindsay Wilson, are affiliated with Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI.
- F. Under Article V, Section 3 of the Association's Bylaws, the Board of Directors has all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the

Association and the condominium project and may do all such acts and things as are not reserved to the members.

- G. Under Article VI, Section 4 of the Association's Bylaws, the President has the power to appoint committees from among the membership from time to time as he may, in his discretion, is appropriate to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Association.
- H. The Board of Directors has determined that it would be desirable and in the best interests of the Association and its members to create a committee (the "Special Litigation Committee") of disinterested persons to assist the Board with respect to all pending litigation and arbitration involving FOA, its current and former Board members, Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI (collectively, the "Litigation").

### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Board of Directors hereby creates the Special Litigation Committee.
- 2. The Board appoints Betty Gilliam, Alec Zoghaib, and Jane Brungart to serve as members of the Special Litigation Committee. The Board finds that each member of the committee is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation. In the event of any vacancy on the Special Litigation Committee, the President is authorized to appoint a replacement who is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation.
- 3. The Board of Directors delegates to the Special Litigation Committee all the Board's power and authority to investigate and determine the Association's position with respect to the Litigation. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act in the best interests of the Association as a whole and not in the interest of any individual member or group of members.
- 4. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage one or more special litigation counsel to represent and advise the committee and to otherwise assist the committee in carrying out its responsibilities under this resolution; provided, however, that any counsel so engaged may not have represented any party to the Litigation at any time after July 1, 2006.
- 5. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage such other consultants, advisors, and agents as the committee deems necessary or advisable in connection with fulfilling its responsibilities under this resolution.

- 6. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to enter into such engagement agreements and other contracts as the committee deems necessary or advisable with respect to the retention and compensation of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that the Association is authorized to pay, and shall pay, all reasonable fees, expenses, and disbursements of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that any such engagement agreement or other contract is approved, ratified and adopted by the Board of Directors; and that the officers of the Association are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver, in the name and on behalf of the Association, any such engagement agreement or other contract. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act at all times in a fiscally responsible manner.
- 7. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the directors, officers, employees, accountants, and advisors of the Association to assist the Special Litigation Committee and provide to the committee, each member thereof, and any such counsel, consultant, advisor, agent, or accountant, and their designees, such information and material to the extent requested by the Special Litigation Committee.
- 8. The Board hereby authorizes the officers of the Association to take all such actions and to perform any and all acts (including execution, filing, and delivery of any and all instruments and documents) that they deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

#### **RESOLUTION ACTION SHEET**

Administrative Resolution No.: 2012-02

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
President Bryan Sells		<u></u>	
Vice President Elizabeth Greenwell			
Secretary Lucia Hadley	<u> </u>		
Director Dennis Howland			-
Director Dr. F.J. Pepper			Speciment of the Control of the Cont
Director Lindsay Wilson			Manager of the Control of the Contro
Director Alex Zoghaib			
Adopted by the Board of directors on this _	ay day	of <u>Ju</u>	χή <u>,</u> 2012
Attest: Secretary	Date:	10/16/1	2.

# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 3

### FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO. 2012-03 "APPOINTING SPECIAL LITIGATION COMMITTEE"

#### **RECITALS**

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The First Owners' Association, Inc. ("FOA" or the "Association") is engaged in pending litigation and arbitration with Gordon Properties LLC ("Gordon Properties") and Gordon Residential Holdings LLC ("Gordon Residential"), each of which is a member of the Association, and with Condominium Services, Inc. ("CSI"), a former managing agent of the Association.
- B. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia has found that the Association, acting through its former Board of Directors, willfully violated the United States Bankruptcy Code by denying Gordon Properties its right to vote at FOA's 2010 annual meeting. See Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. (In re Gordon Properties, LLC) 460 B.R. 681 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 2011).
- C. The individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors are the defendants in a pending lawsuit brought against them by Gordon Properties.
- D. Two members of FOA's current Board of Directors, Lucia Hadley and F.J. Pepper, are among those individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors who have been sued by Gordon Properties and whose conduct, together with other members of FOA's former Board of Directors, was found to be a willful violation of law.
- E. Four other members of FOA's current board of directors, Elizabeth Greenwell, Dennis Howland, Bryan Sells, and Lindsay Wilson, are affiliated with Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI.
- F. Under Article V, Section 3 of the Association's Bylaws, the Board of Directors has all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the

Association and the condominium project and may do all such acts and things as are not reserved to the members.

- G. Under Article VI, Section 4 of the Association's Bylaws, the President has the power to appoint committees from among the membership from time to time as he may, in his discretion, is appropriate to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Association.
- H. The Board of Directors has determined that it would be desirable and in the best interests of the Association and its members to create a committee (the "Special Litigation Committee") of disinterested persons to assist the Board with respect to all pending litigation and arbitration involving FOA, its current and former Board members, Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI (collectively, the "Litigation").

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Board of Directors hereby creates the Special Litigation Committee.
- 2. The Board appoints Betty Gilliam, Alec Zoghaib, and Jane Brungart to serve as members of the Special Litigation Committee. The Board finds that each member of the committee is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation. In the event of any vacancy on the Special Litigation Committee, the President is authorized to appoint a replacement who is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation.
- 3. The Board of Directors delegates to the Special Litigation Committee all the Board's power and authority to investigate and determine the Association's position with respect to the Litigation. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act in the best interests of the Association as a whole and not in the interest of any individual member or group of members.
- 4. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage one or more special litigation counsel to represent and advise the committee and to otherwise assist the committee in carrying out its responsibilities under this resolution; provided, however, that any counsel so engaged may not have represented any party to the Litigation at any time after July 1, 2006.
- 5. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage such other consultants, advisors, and agents as the committee deems necessary or advisable in connection with fulfilling its responsibilities under this resolution.

- 6. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to enter into such engagement agreements and other contracts as the committee deems necessary or advisable with respect to the retention and compensation of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that the Association is authorized to pay, and shall pay, all reasonable fees, expenses, and disbursements of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that any such engagement agreement or other contract is approved, ratified and adopted by the Board of Directors; and that the officers of the Association are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver, in the name and on behalf of the Association, any such engagement agreement or other contract. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act at all times in a fiscally responsible manner.
- 7. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the directors, officers, employees, accountants, and advisors of the Association to assist the Special Litigation Committee and provide to the committee, each member thereof, and any such counsel, consultant, advisor, agent, or accountant, and their designees, such information and material to the extent requested by the Special Litigation Committee.
- 8. The Board hereby authorizes the officers of the Association to take all such actions and to perform any and all acts (including execution, filing, and delivery of any and all instruments and documents) that they deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

### **RESOLUTION ACTION SHEET**

Administrative Resolution No.: 2012-02

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
President Bryan Sells			
Vice President Elizabeth Greenwell	/		<del> </del>
Secretary Lucia Hadley			***************************************
Director Dennis Howland		M	
Director Dr. F.J. Pepper			CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR
Director Lindsay Wilson			No.
Director Alex Zoghaib	***************************************		displaced to the street of the
Adopted by the Board of directors on this	æH <sup>™</sup> day o	f_ <u>Ju</u>	<u>૧</u> , 2012
Attest: Secretary	Date:		

# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 4

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### FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION 2012-06

#### REPLACES ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION 2012-05

October 3, 2012

#### **APPOINTING SPECIAL LITIGATION COMMITTEE**

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The First Owners' Association, Inc. ("FOA" or the "Association") is engaged in pending litigation and arbitration with Gordon Properties LLC ("Gordon Properties") and Gordon Residential Holdings LLC ("Gordon Residential"), each of which is a member of the Association, and with Condominium Services, Inc. ("CSI"), a former managing agent of the Association.
- B. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia has found that the Association, acting through its former Board of Directors, willfully violated the United States Bankruptcy Code by denying Gordon Properties its right to vote at FOA's 2010 annual meeting. See Gordon Properties, LLC v. First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. (In re Gordon Properties, LLC) 460 B.R. 681 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 2011).
- C. The individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors are the defendants in a pending lawsuit brought against them by Gordon Properties.
- D. One or more members of FOA's current Board of Directors are among those individual members of FOA's former Board of Directors who have been sued by Gordon Properties and whose conduct, together with other members of FOA's former Board of Directors, was found to be a willful violation of law.
- E. One or more members of FOA's current board of directors are affiliated with Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI.
- F. Under Article V, Section 3 of the Association's Bylaws, the Board of Directors has all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Association and the condominium project and may do all such acts and things as are not reserved to the members.

- G. Under Article VI, Section 4 of the Association's Bylaws, the President has the power to appoint committees from among the membership from time to time as he may, in his discretion, is appropriate to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Association.
- H. The Board of Directors has determined that it would be desirable and in the best interests of the Association and its members to create a committee (the "Special Litigation Committee") of disinterested persons to direct and manage all pending litigation, arbitration, and bankruptcy proceedings involving FOA, its current and former Board members, Gordon Properties, Gordon Residential, and CSI (collectively, the "Litigation").

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Board hereby repeals and rescinds any and all prior resolutions creating a Special Litigation Committee.
- 2. The Board of Directors hereby creates the Special Litigation Committee.
- 3. The Board appoints Jane Brungart, Martina Hernandez, and William Reichenbach to serve as members of the Special Litigation Committee. The Board finds that each member of the committee is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation. In the event of any vacancy on the Special Litigation Committee, the President is authorized to appoint a replacement who is a disinterested person with respect to the Litigation.
- 4. The Board of Directors delegates to the Special Litigation Committee all of the Board's power and authority to direct and manage and determine the Association's position with respect to the Litigation, including, but not limited to, the power to direct FOA's counsel, and to settle the Litigation on terms deemed reasonable and in the best interest of the Association. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act in the best interests of the Association as a whole and not in the interest of any individual member or group of members.
- 5. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage one or more counsel to represent the Association in the Litigation and to represent and otherwise assist the Special Litigation Committee in carrying out its responsibilities under this resolution; *provided*, however, that any counsel so engaged may not have represented any party to the Litigation between July 1, 2006, and June 15, 2012.

- 6. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to select and engage such other consultants, advisors, and agents as the Special Litigation Committee deems necessary or advisable in connection with fulfilling its responsibilities under this resolution.
- 7. The Board authorizes the Special Litigation Committee to execute and enter into such engagement agreements and other contracts on behalf of the Association or on their own behalf as the Special Litigation Committee deems necessary or advisable with respect to the retention and compensation of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that the Association is authorized to pay, and shall pay, all reasonable fees, expenses, and disbursements of such counsel, consultants, advisors, agents, and accountants; that any such engagement agreement or other contract is approved, ratified and adopted by the Board of Directors; and that the officers of the Association are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver, in the name and on behalf of the Association, any such engagement agreement or other contract. In so doing, the Special Litigation Committee shall act at all times in a fiscally responsible manner.
- 8. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the directors, officers, employees, accountants, and advisors of the Association to assist the Special Litigation Committee and provide to the Special Litigation Committee, each member thereof, and any such counsel, consultant, advisor, agent, or accountant, and their designees, such information and material to the extent requested by the Special Litigation Committee.
- 9. The Board hereby authorizes the officers of the Association to take all such actions and to perform any and all acts (including execution, filing, and delivery of any and all instruments and documents) that they deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

### Case 09-18086-RGM Doc 649 Filed 08/08/13 Entered 08/08/13 11:06:49 Desc Main Document Page 33 of 161

# RESOLUTION ACTION SHEET ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO 2012-06 REPLACES ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION 2012-05 OCTOBER 3, 2012 APPOINTING SPECIAL LITIGATION COMMITTEE

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
PRESIDENT BRYAN SELLS				***************************************
VICE PRESIDENT ELIZABETH GREENWELL	***************************************			
SECRETARY/TREASURER LINDSAY WILSON			**************************************	
DIRECTOR LUCIA HADLEY		•		
DIRECTOR JONATHAN HALLS			- The second	
DIRECTOR MARTINA HERNANDEZ				
DIRECTOR BILL REICHENBACH	***************************************	<del></del>		
ATTEST:				
SECRETARY	DATE	-		

## APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 5

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EXHIBIT E

BY-LAWS OF THE

OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM

EXHIBIT FOA 9 Illulus CAS BOOK 811 PAGE 420

BY-LAWS

OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM

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EXHIBIT E .

BY-LAWS

OF THE

OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM ARTICLE I

Name and Location The series and the series are the series and the series are the series and the series and the series are the series are the series and the series are the se

Further of the late of the control o Section 1. Name and Location. The name of this Corporation is the "Owners" Association of FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC. (hereinafter referred to as the "Owners" Association"). Its principal office is located at 4600 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia.

Section?. These By-Laws are established in contemplation of and pursuant to Article 55, \$79.39, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended and for the administra-tion of the Building or Buildings constituted into a Condominium Project known as FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDO-MINIUM which is located at the address set forth in Section 1 of this ARTICLE.

### ARTICLE II

### Definitions

Section 1. Declaration. "Declaration" as used herein means that certain Declaration made the 10thay of
November , 1975, by FORTY SIX HUNDRED CORPORATION pursuant to Article 55, 579.39 through and including 579.103, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, by
which certain described premises are submitted to a
Condominium Project and which Declaration is recorded among the Land Records for the City of Alexandria, Vir-

Section 2. Other Definitions. Unless it is plainly evident from the context that a different meaning is intended all other terms used herein shall have the same meaning as they are defined to have in the Declaration or in Article 55, 579.41, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. The word "Declarant" as used hereinafter refers to FORTY SIX HUNDRED CORPORATION. Unless otherwise indicated hereinafter, the term "Common Elements" shall include both "General" and "Limited" Common Elements.

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ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Members. Every person; group of persons, corporation, trust or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which owns a Condominium Unit within the Condominium Project shall be a member of the Owners' Association, provided, however, that any person, group of persons, corporation, trust, or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which holds such interest solely as security for the performance of an obligation shall not be a member. Every member shall remain a member of said Association until such time as his ownership ceases, for any reason, at which time his membership in said Association shall automatically cease.

Section 2. Membership Certificates. In the event the Board of Directors considers it necessary or appropriate to issue membership certificates or the like, then each such membership certificate shall state that the Owners' Association is organized under the laws of the State of Virginia, the name of the registered holder or holders of the membership represented thereby, and shall be in such form as shall be approved by the Board of Directors. Numbership certificates shall be consecutively numbered, bound in one or more books, and shall be issued therefrom upon certification as to the transfer of title to the Condominium Unit to which such membership is appurtenant. Membership is not otherwise transferable. Every membership certificate shall be signed by the President or a Vice President and the Secretary or an Assistant-Secretary and shall be sealed with the corporate seal.

Section 3. Lost Certificates. The Board of Directors may direct that a new certificate or certificates be issued in place of any certificate or certificates previously issued by the Owners' Association and alleged to have been destroyed or lost, upon the making of an affidavit of that fact by the person claiming the membership certificate to be lost or destroyed. When authorizing such issuance of a new certificate or certificates, the Board of Directors may, in its discretion, and as a condition precedent to the issuance thereof, require the registered holder of such lost or destroyed certificate or certificates, or his legal representative, to advertise the same in such manner as the Board of Directors shall require and to give the Owners' Association a bond in such sum as the Board of Directors may require as an indemnity against any claim that may be made against the Owners' Association.

Section 4. Liquidation Rights. In the event of any voluntary or involuntary dissolution of the Owners' Association, each member of the Owners' Association shall be entitled to receive out of the assets of the Owners' Association available for distribution to the members an amount equal to that proportion of such assets which is shown in Exhibit D, to the Declaration.

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ARTICLE IV

Meeting of Members

Section 1. Place of Meetings. Meetings of the membership shall be held at the principal office of place of business of the Owners' Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the membership as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. The first annual meeting of the members of the Owners! Association shall be held within one hundred eighty (180) days after formation of the Owners' Association, as set forth in the "Declaration" of this Condominium Project. Thereafter, the annual meetings of the members of the Owners' Association shall be held on the first Wednesday of October each succeeding year. At such meeting, there shall be elected by ballot of the members a Board of Directors in accordance with the requirements of Section 5 of ARTICLE V of these By-Laws. The members may also transact such other business of the Owners' Association's as may properly come before them.

Section 3. Special Meetings. It shall be the duty of the President to call a special meeting of the members as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by members representing at least twenty percent (20%) of the total votes of the Project having been presented to the Secretary. The notice of any special meeting and the purpose thereof. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as stated in the notice unless by consent of members representing four-fifths (4/5ths) of the votes present, either in person or by proxy.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to mail a notice of each annual or special meeting, stating the purpose thereof as well as the time and place where it is to be held, to the unit owners as members of record, by U. S. mail return receipt requested, at his address as it appears on the membership book of the Owners' Association, or if no such address appears, at his last known place of address, at least twenty-one (21) days but not more than nine-ty (90) days prior to such annual meeting, and seven (7) days prior to such annual meeting, and seven (7) days prior to such special meeting, service may be accomplished by the delivery of any such notice to the member at his Condominium in the same manner. Notice may be delivered by the Secretary or his designate, provided a receipt of acceptance of such notice is obtained. Attendance by a member at any meeting of the members shall be a waiver of notice by him of the time, place and purpose thereof.

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Section 5. Quorum. The presence, either in person or by proxy, of members representing at least a majority of the total votes of the Condominium Project shall be regulaite for, and shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business which affects the rights and duties of all unit owners. For any business which may result in an assessment, amendment of interest in a limited Common Element, right or duty of fewer than all the unit owners, the presence, either in person or by proxy, of members of representing a majority of the votes of the units so affected shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Adjourned Meetings. If any meeting of members dannot be organized because a quorum has not attended, the members who are present, either in person or by proxy, may, except as otherwise provided by law, adjourn the meeting to a time not less than forty-eight (48) hours from the time the original meeting was called.

Section 7. Voting. At every meeting of the members, each member present, in person or by proxy, shall have the right to cast the vote assigned to his Unit by Exhibit D of the Declaration on each question for each membership which he owns. The vote of the members representing a majority of the total votes of the Condominium Project, in person or by proxy, shall decide any question brought before such meeting, unless the guestion is one upon which, by express provision of statute or of the Articles of Incorporation, or of the Declaration or of these By-Laws, a different vote is required, in which case such express provision shall govern and control. Notwithstanding the foregoing statement any question raised at a meeting which may result in an assessment, amendment of interest in a Limited Common Element, right or duty of fewer than all unit owners may be voted upon only by those unit owners who will or may be so affected and a majority vote shall carry the question. No amedment to any Condominium instruments shall alter any rights or obligations with respect to any Limited Common Elements without the consent of all unit owners adversely affected thereby. The vote of any member which is possessed by more than one person may be exercised by any one of them present at any meeting. If more than one owner of a unit is present, the yote may be cast by unanimous consent of said owners or by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or protest by any one of them, provided no objections or management account of the Owners' Association to be more than thirty (30) days delinquent in any payment due the Owners' Association.

Section 8. Proxies. A member may appoint any other person or the Decidrant as his proxy. Any proxy must be in writing and dated, the signatures of the owners properly acknowledged and be filed with the Secretary in form approved by the Board of Directors before the appointed time of each meeting. Unless limited by its terms, any proxy shall terminate upon the adjournment of the meeting next following the creation of the proxy or until sooner revoked by a written notice of revocation filed with the Secretary or by the death of the member.

Section 9. Order of Business. The order of business at all regularly scheduled meetings of the regular members shall be as follows:

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- (a) Roll call and certification of proxies.(b) Proof of notice of meeting or waiver of notice.
- notice:

  (c) Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.

  (d) Reports of officers, if any.

  (e) Reports of committees, if any.

  (f) Election of inspectors of election.

  (g) Election of directors.

  (h) Unfinished business.

  (i) New business.

In the case of special meetings; items (a) through (d) shall be applicable and thereafter the agenda shall consist of the items specified in the notice of the meeting.

#### Directors

- section 1. Numbers and Qualification. The affairs of the Owners' Association shall be governed by the Board of Directors (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Board of Directors") composed of at least seven (7) natural persons who shall (after the first annual meeting of members) be members of the Owners' Association. At least one of the Directors, but not more than two, shall be owners of Commercial Condominium Units or if no Commercial Units have been conveyed, owners of the convertible space.
- Section 2. Initial Directors. The initial Directors. Shall be selected by the Declarant and need not be members of the Owners! Association. Such Directors shall act from the date upon which the Declaration is recorded among the Land Records for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, until the first annual meeting of the members or until such time as their successors are duly chosen and qualified.
- Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors section 3. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Owners' Association and the Condominium Project and may do all such acts and things as are not by law or by these By-Laws directed to be exercised and done by the members. The powers and duties of the Board of Directors shall in-clude, but not be limited to, the following:
- (a) To provide for the care, upkeep and surveillance of the Condominium Project and the Common Elements and services in a manner consistent with law and the provisions of these By-Laws and the Declaration.
- (b) To establish and provide for the collection of assessments and/or carrying charges from the members and for the assessment and/or enforcement of liens therefor in a manner consistent with law and the provisions of . these By-Laws and the Declaration.
- (c) To provide for the designation, hiring and/or dismissal of the personnel necessary for the good working order of the Condominium Project and for the proper care

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of the Common Elements and to provide services for the Project in a manner consistent with law and the pro-Visions of these By-Laws and the Declaration.

- (d) To promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations and such restrictions or requirements as may be deemed proper respecting the use, occupancy and maintenance of the Project and the use of the Common Elements as are designated to prevent unreasonable interference with the use and occupancy of the Condominium Project and of the Common Elements by the members, all of which shall be consistent with law and the provisions of these By-Laws and the Declaration,
- (e) To authorize, in their discretion, refunds from excess residual receipts when and as reflected in the annual report.
  - (f) To establish a general operating reserve and/or a reserve for replacement or depreciation of Common Elements and to provide for the collection of such amounts.
  - tion, these By Laws, and any amendments thereto.
    - (h) To have the irrevocable power as attorney-infact on behalf of all unit owners and their successors in title to grant easements to the Common Elements and accept easements benefiting the Condominium Project.
      - (i) Establish and maintain bank accounts for the control of funds collected and dispursed as herein provided.

Section 4: Management Agent. The Board of Directors may, by contract in writing, delegate any of its duties, powers or functions to a management organization (Management Agent). The Owners! Association and the Board of Directors shall not be liable for any omission or improper exercise by the Management Agent of any such duty, power or function so delegated. Upon the expiration of two years from the creation of the Condominium, the Board of Directors shall ratify any management agreement entered into within that time period or terminate such agreement.

Section 5. Election and Term of Office. The term of the Directors named herein and in the Articles of Incorporation shall expire when their successors have been elected at the first annual meeting of members and are duly qualified. Such meeting shall be chaired by an officer, agent, or designate of the management agent but shall not be one of the initial Directors. At the first annual meeting of the members, the term of office of the four (4) elected Directors receiving the greatest number of votes shall be fixed for two (2) years. The term of office of the elected Directors receiving the fifth, sixth, and seventh greatest number of votes shall be fixed at one (1) year. In the event of a tie in the number of votes for the seventh Director, a runoff shall be held among those tieing for the position. At the expiration of the initial term of office of each respective elected Director, his successor shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. The Directors shall hold office until their successors have been elected and hold their first meeting.

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Section 6. Vacanties: Vacancies among the elected Directors loaused by any reason other than the removal of a Director by a vote of the membership shall be filled by vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, even though they may constitute less than a quorum; and each person so elected shall be a Director until a successor is elected by all the members at the next annual meeting to serve out the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 7. Removal of Directors. At a regular or special meeting duly called, any Director may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of the majority of the entire membership of record and a successor may then and there be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. Any Director whose removal has been proposed by the members shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. The term of any Director who becomes more than thirty (30) days delinquent in payment of any Assessments and/or carrying charges due the Owners' Association shall be automatically terminated and the remaining Directors shall appoint his successor as provided in Section 6 of this ARTICLE. An appointed Director may be removed at any time and only by the party or institution having appointed him.

Section 8. Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to Directors for their services as Directors. After the first annual meeting of the members, no remuneration shall be paid to any Director who is also a member of the Owners' Association for services performed by him for the Owners' Association in any other capacity unless a resolution authorizing such remuneration shall have been adopted by the Board of Directors before the services are undertaken.

Section 9. Organization Meeting. The first meeting of a newly elected Board of Directors shall be held within ten (10) days of election at such place as shall be fixed by the Directors at the meeting at which such Directors were elected, and no notice shall be necessary to the newly elected Directors in order legally to constitute such meeting, provided a majority of the whole Board of Directors shall be present.

Section 10. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time, by a majority of the Directors, but at least two (2) such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year. Notice of regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given to each Director, personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, at least thirty (30) days prior to the day named for such meeting.

Section 11. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President on ten (10) days notice to each Director, given personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, which notice shall state the time, place (as hereinabove provided) and purpose of the meeting. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or Secretary in like manner and on like notice on the written request of at least one-third (1/3) of the Directors.

Section 12. Additional Notice Requirements. Copies of all notices of regular and special meetings shall be

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sent to the Managing Agent and to one agent appointed for receipt of such notice by all holders of first mortgages or first deeds of trust. The failure to give the notice required by this section shall invalidate any action taken at such meeting.

Section 13. Waiver of Motice. Before or at any meeting of the Board of Directors, any Director or any person required to receive notice under Section 12 of
ARTICLE V, may, in writing, waive notice of such meetlog and such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the
filing of such notice. Attendance by a Director at
any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be a waiver
of notice by him of the time, place and purpose thereof.
If all the Directors are present at any meeting of the
Board of Directors, ho notice shall be required and any
business may be transacted at such meeting.

Section 14. Quorum. At all meetings of the Board of Directors a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the acts of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the acts of the Board of Directors. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors there be less than a quorum present, the majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time. Notice of such adjournment shall be provided in writing to the absent Directors at their unit in the Condominium Project. At any subsequent meeting called pursuant to this sub heading, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called may be transacted without further notice.

Section 15. Action Without Meeting. Any action by the Board of Directors required or permitted to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting if all of the members of the Board of Directors shall individually or collectively consent in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors.

Section 16. Fidelity Bonds. The Board of Directors shall require that all officers and employees of the Owners' Association handling or responsible for corporate or trust funds shall furnish adequate fidelity bonds. The premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the Owners' Association.

#### ARTICLESUT

### Officers

Section I. Designation. The principal officers of the Owners! Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Directors. The President and Vice President shall be members of the Owners! Association. If the owner of a Commercial Condominium Unit who is serving as President or Vice President of the Owners! Association disposes of his Unit for a term greater than six months he may continue to serve as such officer. The owner of either a Residential of Commercial Condominium who conveys his Unit in fee automatically terminates his position as President or Vice President.

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A President or Vice President of the Owners' Association who is a Diffector, officer, trustee or partner of an owner of a Unit who is not a natural person and ceases such relationship with the Unit owner shall automatically be terminated as President or Vice President of the Owners' Association. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Owners' Association. The Directors may appoint an assistant Secretary and an assistant Treasurer and such other officers as in their judgment may be necessary. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by the same person.

Section 2. Election of Officers. The officers of the Owners' Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the organization meeting of each new Board and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Removal of Officers. Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, any officer may be removed either with or without cause, and his successor elected at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors, or at any special meeting of the Board of Directors called for such purpose.

Section 4. President, The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Owners' Association. He shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He shall have all of the general powers and duties which are usually vested in the office of President of a corporation, including but not limited to the power to appoint committees from among the membership from time to time as he may, in his discretion; decide is appropriate to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Owners' Association.

Section 5. Vice President: The Vice President shall take the place of the President and perform his duties whenever the President shall be absent or unable to act. If neither the President nor the Vice President is able to act, the Board shall appoint some other member of the Board to do so on an interim basis. The Vice President shall also perform such other duties as shall from time to time be delegated to him by the Board of Directors.

Saction 6. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the minutes of all meetings of the members of the Owners' Association; he shall have custody of the seal of the Owners' Association; he shall have charge of the membership transfer books and of such other books and papers as the Board of Directors may direct; and he shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary.

Section 7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have responsibility for corporate funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and dispursements in books belonging to the Owners' Association. He shall be responsible for the deposit of all moneys and other valuable effects in the name, and to the credit, of the Owners' Association in such depositaries as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.

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ARTICLE VII

Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Section 1. Diability and Indemnification of Officers: and Directors; The Owners' Association shall indemnify every officer and Director of the Owners' Association against any and all expenses, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon any officer or Director in connection with any action, suit or other proceeding (including the settlement of any such suit or proceeding if approved by the then Board of Directors of the Owners! Association) to which he may be made a party by reason of being or having been an officer or Director of the Owners' Association whether or not such person is an officer or Director at the time such expenses are incurred. The officers and Directors of the Owners' Association shall not be liable to the members of the Owners' Association for any mistake of judgment, negligence, or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misconduct or bad faith. The Officers and Directors of the Owners' Association shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made by them, in good faith, on behalf of the Owners' Association or the Condominium Project (except to the extent that such officers or Di-rectors may also be owners of Condominium Units) and the Owners. Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer and Director free and harmless against any and all liability to others on account of any such contract or commitment. Any right to indemnifi-cation that an officer or Director of the Owners! Association is entitled, shall apply to a former officer or Director of the Owners' Association and his heirs, executors, and/or administrator. Such right of indemnifica-tion shall not be deemed exclusive of any rights to which he may be entitled under any by-law, agreement, vote of stockholders; or otherwise.

- Section 2. Common or Interested Directors. The Directors shall exercise their powers and duties in good faith and with a view to the interests of the Owners' Association and the Condominium Project. No contract or other transaction between the Owners' Association and one or more of its Directors, or between the Owners! Association and any other corporation, firm or association (including the Declarant) in which one or more of the Directors of this Owners' Association are Directors or officers or are pecuniarily or otherwise interested, is either void or voidable because such Director or Directors are present at the meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof which authorized or approves the contract or transaction, or because his on their votes are counted for such purpose, if any, of the conditions specified in any of the following subparagraphs exist:
- (a) The fact of the common directorate or interest is disclosed or known to the Board of Directors or a majority thereof or noted in the minutes, and the Board authorizes, approves, or ratifies such contract or transaction in good faith by a vote sufficient for the purpose;
  - (b) The fact of the common directorate or interest is disclosed or known to the members, or a majority thereof,

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and they approve or ratify the contract of transaction in good faith by a vote sufficient for the purpose; or

(c) The contract or transaction is commercially reasonable to the Owners' Association at the time it is authorized, ratified, approved or executed.

Common or interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum of any meeting of the Board of Directors or committee thereof which authorizes, approves or ratifies any contract or transaction, and may vote thereat to authorize any contract or transaction with like force and effect as if he were not such Director or officer of such other corporation or not so interested.

### ARTICLE VIII

Operation and Management of the Project

- Section 1. Management and Common Expenses. The Owners hasociation, acting by and through its Board of Directors, shall manage, operate and maintain the Condominium Project and, for the benefit of the Condominium Units and the owners thereof, shall enforce the provisions hereof and shall pay out of the Common Expense fund hereinelsewhere provided for, the following:
- (a) The cost of providing heat, air conditioning, water, sewer, garbage and trash collection, electrical, gas and other necessary utility services for the Common Elements, to the extent that the same are not separately metered or billed to each Condominium Unit, and for the Condominium Units; the costs of operating and maintaining any and all television and radio distribution, systems, and recreational facilities, all or any of which may be done directly or through an independent contractor.
- (b) The cost of fire and extended liability insurance on the Condominium Project, the cost of a master liability policy as described in the Declaration and the cost of such other insurance as the Owners' Association may effect.
- (c) The cost of the services of a firm to manage the Project (Managing Agent) to the extent deemed advisable by the Owners' Association together with the services of such other personnel as the Board of Directors of the Owners' Association shall consider necessary for the operation of the Condominium Project.
- (d) The costs of providing such legal and accounting services as may be considered necessary to the operation of the Condominium Project.
- (e) The cost of painting, maintaining, replacing, repairing and landscaping the Common Elements and such furnishings and equipment for the Common Elements as the Board of Directors shall determine are necessary and proper, and the Board of Directors shall have the exclusive right and duty to acquire the same; provided, however that nothing herein contained shall require the Owners' Association to paint, repair or otherwise maintain the interior of any Condominium or any fixtures, appliances or equipment located therein.

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- (f) The cost of any and all other materials, supplies, labor, services, maintenance, repairs, taxes, assessments or the like which the Owners' Association is required to secure or pay for by law, or otherwise, or which in the discretion of the Board of Directors shall be necessary of proper for the operation of the Common Elements, provided, however, that if any of the aforementioned are provided or paid for the benefit of a particular Condominium or Condominiums, the cost thereof shall be specially assessed to the owner or owners thereof in the manner provided in subsection (g) of Section 1 of this ARTICLE.
- (g) The cost of the maintenance or repair of any Condominium Unit in the event such maintenance or repair is reasonably necessary in the discretion of the Board of Directors to protect the Common Elements or to preserve the appearance or value of the Condominium Project or is otherwise in the interest of the general welfare of all owners of Condominium Units; provided, however, that no such maintenance or repair shall be undertaken without reasonable written notice to the owner of the Condominium Unit proposed to be maintained and provided further that the cost thereof shall be assessed against the Condominium Unit which such maintenance or repair is performed and, when so assessed, a statement for the amount thereof shall be rendered promptly to the then owner of said Condominium Unit at which time the Assessment shall become due and payable and a continuing lien and obligation of said owner in all respects as provided in ARTICLE IX of these By-Laws.
- (h) Any amount necessary to discharge any lien or encumbrance levied against the Condominium Project, or any portion thereof, which may, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, constitute a lien against the Common Elements rather than the interest therein of the owner of any individual Condominium Unit.
- (i) Any amount necessary to pay real estate taxes assessed against the property described in Exhibit A of the Declaration or other governmental charges of whatever nature assessed on or against the Common Elements of the Condominium Project, and all other taxes and assessments levied against the Owners! Association or upon any property which it may own or it is otherwise required to pay, if any.
- (j) Any amount deemed necessary or desirable by the Board of Directors to be placed in a reserve for replacement of any Common Elements.
- Section 2. Management Agent. The Board of Directors shall employ for the Owners' Association a management organization (the "Management Agent") at a rate of compensation and such other terms and conditions as shall be established by the Board of Directors to perform such duties and services as the Board of Directors shall from time to time authorize in writing, which may include, but not necessarily be limited to, the duties set out in ARTICLE V subsections (a) through (d) of Section 3 and subsections (a) through (j) of Section 1 of this ARTICLE. The Owners' Association shall not dhange Management Agents or undertake selfmanagement, without the prior affirmative vote of members representing three-fourths (3/4ths) of the votes of the Residential and Commercial Unit owners present at any meeting of the members duly called for such

purpose except for the provisions of ARPICLE V, Section 4. herein.

### Section 3. Duty to Maintain,

- A. Residential and Commercial Units. Except for maintenance requirements horein imposed upon the Owners Association, if any, the owner of any Residential or Association, if any, the owner of any Residential or Commercial Condominium shall, at his own expense, maintain the interior of his Condominium and any and all equipment, appliances, or fixtures therein situate, in good order, condition and repair, and in such clean and sanitary condition as may at any time be necessary to maintain the good appearance of his Condominium Unit and shall, at his own expense, maintain, repair or replace any plumbing and electrical fixtures, outlets and recepany plumbing and electrical fixtures, outlets and receptacles, lighting fixtures, refrigatators, freezers, dishwashers, disposals, ranges, range hoods, and/or other equipment that may be in such Condominium Unit.
  - B. Street Front Commercial Units. The owner of a Street Front Commercial Unit shall maintain it and any improvements thereon at his own expense, in good order, condition, and repair, and in such clean and sanitary condition as may at any time be necessary to maintain the good appearance of his Condominium Unit.
    - Section 4. Windows and Doors. The owner of any Condo-minium shall at his own expense, clean and maintain the interior surfaces of all windows of the Condominium Unit.
  - Section 5. Access at Reasonable Times. For the purpose solely of performing any of the rapairs or maintenance required or authorized by these By-Laws, or in the event of a bona fide emergency involving illness or potential danger to life or property, the Owners' Association through its duly authorized agents or employees, shall have the right, after reasonable efforts to give notice to the owner or occupant, to enter any Condominium Unit at any hour considered to be reasonable under the circumstances.
- Section 6. Easements for Utilities and Related Purposes.
  The Owners' Association is authorized and empowered to
  grant such licenses, easements and/or rights-or-way for sewer lines, water lines, television and radio distribution systems, electrical cables, telephone cables, gas tion systems, electrical cables, telephone cables, gas lines, storm drains, underground conduits and/or such other purposes related to the provision of public utilities to the Conduition of public utilities to the Condominium Project as may be considered necessary and appropriate by the Board of Directors for the orderly maintenance, preservation and enjoyment of the Common Elements or for the preservation of the health, safety, convenience and/or welfare of the owners of the Condominiums or the Declarant.

Section 7. Limitation of Liability. The Owners' Association shall not be liable for any failure of any services to be obtained by the Owners' Association or paid for out of the Common Expense funds. out of the Common Expense funds, including, but not limited to, those enumerated in ARTICLE VIII, Section 1 (a) hereof, or for injury or damage to person or property caused by the Elements or by the owner of any Condominium Unit, or any other person, or resulting from electricity, water, snow or ice which may leak or flow from any portion of the Common Elements or from any wire, pipe, drain, con-duit, appliance or equipment. The Owners' Association shall not be liable to the owner of any Condominium Unit for loss or damage, by theft or otherwise, of articles which may be stored upon any of the Common Elements, including but not limited to owner storage areas, pool and

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sauna locker rooms and other appurtenances. Except as hereinelsewhere provided, no damages shall be claimed or allowed for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements to the Common Elements, or to any Condominium Unit or from any action taken by the Owners' Association to comply with any law, ordinance or with the order or directive of any municipal or other governmental authority.

#### ARTICLE IX

#### Assessments

Section 1. Annual Assessments and Common Expenses. Each Residential and Commercial member shall pay in advance to the Owners' Association a monthly sum (herein-elsewhere sometimes referred to as "Assessments") equal to one-twelfth (1/12th) of the member's proportionate share of the sum required by the Owners' Association, as estimated by its Board of Directors, to meet its annual expenses, including but in no way limited to the following (all of which are sometimes elsewhere herein referred to as "Common Expense"):

- (a) The cost of all operating expenses of the Condominium Project and services furnished, including charges by the Owners' Association for facilities and services furnished by it and all costs required to be paid by the Owners' Association as set forth in ARTICLE VIII, Section 1 (a) et. seq. of these By-Laws.
- (b) The cost of funding all reserves established by the Owners' Association, including when appropriate, a general operating reserve and/or a reserve for replacements; and
- (c) The estimated cost of repairs, maintenance and replacements of the Condominium Project to be made by the Owners' Association.

The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of the Assessment annually, but may do so at more frequent intervals should circumstances so require.

The Assessments shall be based on the percentages of responsibility set forth in Exhibit D to the Declaration.

The Board of Directors of the Owners Aspociation shall make reasonable efforts to fix the amount of the Assessment against each Condominium Unit for each Assessment period at least thirty (30) days in advance of such date or period and shall, at that time, prepare a roster of the membership and Assessments applicable thereto which shall be kept in the office of the Owners! Association and shall be open to inspection by any owner upon reasonable notice to the Board. Written notice of the Assessment shall thereupon be sent to the members. The omission of the Board of Directors, before the expiration of any Assessment period, to fix the Assessments hereunder for that or the next period, shall not be

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deemed a waiver or modification in any respect of the provisions of this ARTICLE, or a release of any member from the obligation to pay the Assessment, or any installment thereof, for that or any subsequent Assessment period, but the Assessment fixed for the preceding period shall continue until a new Assessment is fixed. No member may exempt himself from liability for Assessments by a waiver of the use or enjoyment of any of the Common Elements appurtenant to it his Unit or by abandonment of any Unit belonging to him.

Each Residential and Commercial owner shall pay the Assessment within fifteen days of the receipt of the Notice of Assessment.

Section 2. Special Assessments. In addition to the regular Assessments authorized by this ARTICLE, the Owners' Association may levy in any Assessment year a special Assessment or Assessments, applicable to that year only, for the purpose of defraying, in whole or in part, the cost of any construction or reconstruction, unexpected repair or replacement of a described capital improvement located upon the Project, including the necessary fixtures and personal property related thereto, or for such other purpose as the Board of Directors may consider appropriate, provided that any such Assessment shall have the assent of the members representing two-thirds (2/3rds) of the total votes of those unit owners who will be assessed. A meeting of the members shall be duly called for this purpose, written notice of which shall be sent to all members at least seven (7) days but not more than thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting, which notice shall set forth the purpose of this meeting.

If the Assessment is for the capital improvement of a Limited Common Element, such Special Assessment shall be levied only against those affected owners and in proportion to their interest therein.

Section 3. Reserve for Replacements. The Owners' Association shall establish and maintain a reserve fund of an amount to be designated from time to time by the Board of Directors. Such fund shall be deposited in a special account with an institution the accounts of which are insured by an agency of the United States of America (the Board of Directors may authorize the depositing of funds in such an institu-tion in excess of the limits of such insurance if any portion of such funds are insured), or may; in the discretion of the Board of Directors, be invested in obligations of, or fully guaranteed as to principal by, the United States of America. Such reserve shall be designated as applicable to one of the General or Limited Common Elements set out as a separate category in the Declaration and shall be drawn . from Assessments on the Units to which the particular Common Element is appurtenant. The reserve for replacements may be expended only for the purpose of effecting the replacement of those Common Elements and equipment of the Project and for operating contingencies of a required to be allocated to the reserve for replacements shall be considered an appurtenence of the Unit nonrecurring nature applicable thereto. The amounts required to be allocated to the reserve for replacefrom which the Assessment was drawn and shall not be separately withdrawn, assigned or transferred or otherwise. BOOK 911 PAGE 438

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separated from the Unit to which it appertains and shall be deemed to be transferred with such Unit.

Section 4. Non-Payment of Assassment. Any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws, or any installment thereof, which is not paid on the date when due shall be delinquent and shall, together with interest thereon and the cost of collection thereof, as hereinafter provided, thereupon become a continuing lien upon the Condominium Unit or Condominium Units belonging to the member against whom such Assessment is levied and shall bind such Condominium Unit or Condominium Units in the hands of the then owner, his heirs, devisees, personal representatives and assigns, all in accordance with the provisions of Title 55 \$79.84, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. The personal obligation of the member to pay such Assessment shall, however, remain his personal obligation for the statutory period and a suit to recover a money judgment for non-payment of any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws, or any Installment thereof, may be maintained without foreclosing or waiving the lien herein and by the aforesaid statute created to secure the same.

Section 5. Remedies for Non-Payment of Assessment. Any Assessment levied pursuant to the Declaration or these By-Laws, or any installment thereof, which is not paid within the ten (10) days after it is due, shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed ten percent (10%) per annum, and the Owners' Association may bring an action at law against the member personally obligated to pay the same, or foreclose the lien against the Condominium Unit or Units then belonging to said member, in either of which events interest costs and reasonable attorneys fees of not less than twenty percent (20%) of the sum claimed shall be added to the amount of each Assessment. The Owners' Association shall notify the holder of the first mortgage on any Condominium Unit for which any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws becomes delinquent for a period in excess of thirty (30) days and in any other case where the owner of such Condominium Unit is in default with respect to the performance of any other obligation hereunder for a period in excess of . thirty (30) days.

Section 6. Assessment Certificates. The Owners' Association shall upon demand at any time furnish to any member liable for any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws (or any other party legitimately interested in the same), a certificate in writing signed by an officer of the Owners' Association setting forth the status of said Assessment, i.e., whether the same is paid or unpaid. Such certificate shall be conslusive evidence of the payment of any Assessment therein stated to have been paid. A charge not to exceed TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) may be levied in advance by the Owners' Association for each certificate so delivered.

The Owners' Association shall, upon demand at any time furnish to any member who is reselling his Unit, a certificate in writing signed by an officer of the Owners' Association setting forth a statement of any capital expenditures anticipated by the Owners' Association within the current or succeeding two fiscal years and a statement of the status and amount of any reserve for replacement fund including the portion of such fund earmarked for any specified Project by the Board of Directors. A

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charge not to exceed TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) may be levied in advance by the Owners' Association for each partificate so delivered.

Section 7. Priority of Lien. The lien established by this ARTICLE and by Title 55, \$79.84, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, shall have preference over any other Assessments, liens, judgments or charges of whatever nature, except the following:

- (a) General and special Assessments for real estate taxes on the Condominium Unit; and
- (b) The liens of any mortgage duly recorded on said Condominium Unit after receipt of a written statement from the Board of Directors reflecting that payments on said lien were current as of the date of recordation of said mortgage, .

Section 8. Subordination and Mortgage Protection. Not-withstanding any other provisions hereof to the contrary, the lien of any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws upon any Condominium Unit in the Project shall be subordinate to, and shall in no way affect the rights of the holder of any indebtedness secured by any recorded first mortgage (meaning a mortgage with priority over other mortgages) upon such interest made in good faith. and for value received, provided, however, that such subordination shall apply only to Assessments which have become due and payable prior to a sale or transfer of such Condominium Unit pursuant to a decree of foreclosure, or any other proceeding in lieu of foreclosure. Such sale or any other proceeding in lieu or forectosure. Such sale of transfer shall not relieve the purchaser at such sale of the Condominium Unit from liability for any Assessments thereafter becoming due, nor from the lien of any such subsequent Assessment, which said lien, if any, claimed shall have the same effect and be enforced in the same. shall have the same effect and be enroused in the manner as provided herein. This provision shall in no manner as provided herein. This provision shall in no action against the transferor for reimbursement of said Assessment.

No amendment to this Section shall affect the rights of the holder of any such mortgage (or the indebtedness secured thereby) recorded prior to recordation of such amendment unless the holder thereof (or of the indebtedness secured thereby) shall join in the execution of such amendment:

The Board of Directors may, in its sole and absolute discretion, extend the provisions of this Section to the holders of mortgages (or the indebtedness secured thereby) not otherwise entitled thereto.

Section 9. Additional Default. Any recorded first Mortgage secured by a Condominium Unit in the Project shall provide that any default by the mortgagor in the payment of any Assessment levied pursuant to these By-Laws, or any installment thereof, shall likewise be a default in such mortgage (or the indebtedness secured thereby) but failure to include such a provision in any such mortgage shall not affect the validity or priority thereof and the protection extended to the holder of such first mortgage (or the indebtedness secured thereby) by reason of Section 7 of this ARTICLE shall not be altered, modified or diminished by reason of such failure.

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Section 10. Definition. As used in these By-Laws, the term "Mortgage" shall include deed of trust and term "holder" or "mortgagee" shall include the party secured by any deed of trust or any beneficiary thereof.

### ARTICLE X

#### Use Restrictions .

Section 1. Residential Condominium Unit. Condominium Units on floors 5 through 16 shall be used for private residential purposes exclusively except for such temporary non-residential uses as may be permitted by the Board of Directors from time to time. Nothing in this Section, or hereinelsewhere, shall be construed to prohibit the Declarant from the use of any Condominium Unit which Declarant owns for offices, promotion, marketing or display purposes as "model apartments" for the period of the easement to facilitate sales as set out in the Declaration or from leasing any Condominium Unit or Units which Declarant owns.

Section 2. Commercial Condominium Unit: The Condominium Units and convertible space on floors 3 and 4 shall be used as Commercial Units except for the provisions here in relating to the Declarant's right to convert convertible space and the right of any owner, other than Declarant, of Commercial Units to convert such Units to Residential Units upon written notice to the Board. The Street-Front Commercial Units may be used for any purpose allowed by law.

Section 3. Financial Responsibility, etc. The right to use or occupy any Condominium Unit within the Project, reside therein permanently or otherwise, and the right to sell, lease or otherwise transfer or convey any Condominium Unit may be subject to such uniform objective standards relating to financial responsibility and/or character as may now or hereafter be set forth in these By-Laws. No such restriction shall be based upon race, religion, sex, age or place of national origin.

Residential Unit shall be rented for transient or hotel purposes or, in any event, for any period less than six (6) months, nor shall any customary hotel services, such as room service, food and beverage service, maid service, laundry or bellboy service be furnished. No portion of and Residential Condominium Unit (other than the entire Condominium Unit) shall be leased for any period. Any lease shall contain a provision to the effect that the right of the tenant to use and occupy the Condominium Unit shall be subject and subordinate in all respects to the provisions of the Declaration and these By-Laws and to such rules and regulations relating to the use of the Common Elements, or other "house rules" as the Board of Directors may from time to time promulgate. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any institutional mortgagee of any Condominium Unit, which comes into possession of the Unit as a result of a foreclosure sale or other judicial sale or as a result of any proceeding in lieu of foreclosure. The owner of a Commercial Unit must provide in any lease agreement that every tenant or subtenant shall comply in all respects to the Declaration, By-Laws, and rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Directors.

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### Section 5. Prohibited Uses of Residential and Commer-

- (a) No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on in any Residential or Commercial Condominium white hor shall anything be done or be permitted to remain in any Condominium Unit which may be or become a somits ance or annoyance to the other owners. Residents of FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM shall exercise care not to disturb other residents with excessive noise.
  - (b) There shall be no obstruction of any Common Elements. Nothing shall be stored upon any Common Elements (excepting those areas designated for Storage of personal property by the owners of the Condominiums) without the approval of the Board of Directors. Vehicular parking upon Limited Common Blements may be regulated or assigned by the Board of Directors consistent with the Declaration and these By-Laws.
  - Condominium Unit or upon any Common Elements which will increase the rate of insurance on any Condominium Unit or any Common Elements, or result in the cancellation thereast, without the prior written approval of the Board of Directors. Nothing shall be done or maintained in any Condominium Unit or upon any Common Elements which would be in violation of any laws. No waste shall be committed upon any Common Elements.
    - (d) No structural alteration, construction, addition, or removal of any Residential or Commercial Condominium Unit or Common Elements shall be commenced or conducted except in strict accordance with the provisions of the Declaration and these By-Laws.
    - than common household pets shall be kept or maintained in any Condominium Unit. No more than two cats or dogs or combination thereof shall be kept or maintained in any Unit. No common household pet shall be kept or maintained in any Unit. No common household pet shall be kept or maintained which weighs in excess of twenty-five (25) pounds. Common household pets shall not be kept, bred or maintained for commercial purposes in a Residential Condominium.

All pets must be registered with the Board of Directors and shall be the absolute responsibility of the respective unit owner. All dogs, while outside of any Unit shall remain on a leash and must be curbed. All pet owners shall be responsible for the removal of any excrement left by the pet on the Common Elements. Each pet owner is responsible for any damage caused to the Common Elements or to any other Unit by his pet.

(f) Except for such signs as may be posted by the Deglarant for promotional or marketing purposes, no signs of any character shall be erected, posted or displayed upon, in, from or about any Residential Condominium or Common Elements. No owner or other resident or tenant of FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM shall erect, post or display, a sign of any character upon, in, from or about any Buildings or elsewhere on the Land, except on designated areas specified by the Owners' Association. The owner of a Commorcial Condominium may place such name or logo on the door of his Condominium and in an office directory as is appropriate, but no owner may place a sign in or upon a Window on the exterior of the Building.

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- (g) No part of the Common Elements shall be used for commercial activities of any character except for the normal use of the Common Elements on floors 3 and 4. This subsection shall not apply to the use of Condominium Unit by the Declarant for display, marketing, promotional or sales, or business purposes.
- (h) No burning of any trash and no unreasonable or unsightly accumulation or storage of litter, new or used building materials, or trash of any other kind shall be permitted within any Condominium Unit or upon any Common Elements. Trash and garbage containers shall not be permitted to remain in public view, but shall be deposited in the receptacles provided for that purpose.
- (i) No structure of a temporary character, trailer, tent, shack, barn or other outbuilding shall be maintained upon any Common Elements at any time. No clothing, laundry, rugs or wash shall be hung from or spread upon any window or exterior portion of a Condominium Unit or in or upon a Common Element.
- (1) No owner or other resident shall install any electrical or telephone wire, television antenna, or other antenna, air conditioning unit or other machine or device on the exterior of the Building in FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM or in such a fashion that it protrudes through the roof or any windows, or any walls of the Building.
- (k) There shall be no violation of any rules and regulations for the use of the Common Blements or other "house rules", which may from time to time be adopted by the Board of Directors and promulgated among the membership by them in writing, and the Board of Directors is hereby and elsewhere by these By-Laws authorized to adopt such rules.

### ARTICLE XI

Architectural Control and Alteration of Unit Boundaries

Section 1. Architectural Control. Except for the original construction of the Condominium Unit situate within the Project and any improvements to any Condominium Unit or to the Common Elements by the Daclarant, and except for purposes of proper maintenance and repair or as otherwise in these By-Laws provided, it shall be prohibited to install, erect, attach, apply, paste, hinge, screw, nail, build, alter, remove or construct any lighting, shades, screens, awnings, decorations, fences, aerials, antennas, radio or television broadcasting or receiving devices, slabs, sidewalks, curbs, casting or receiving devices, slabs, sidewalks, curbs, any change or otherwise alter (including any alteration in color) in any manner whatsoever to the exterior of any Residential or Commercial Condominium or upon any of the Common Elements within the Project until the complete plans and specifications, showing the location, nature, shape; height, material, color, type of construction

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or any other proposed form of change (including, nout limitation, any other information specified by a Board of Directors or its designated committee) shall have been submitted to and approved in writing as to harmony of external design, color and location in relation to surrounding structures and topography by the Board of Directors. Nothing contained in the Section shall be deemed to empower the Board of Directors to authorize any change in conflict with any provision of the Declaration.

In the event the Board of Directors, or its designated committee, fails to approve or disapprove such design and location within ninety (90) days after said plans and specifications have been submitted to it, or in any event, if no suit to enjoin the addition, alteration or change has been commenced prior to the completion thereof, approval will not be required and this Article will be deemed to have been fully complied with. The Section shall not apply to any Street-Front Commercial Unit.

Section 2. Reassignment of Limited Common Elements. A unit owner who desires to assign the Limited Common Elements located in the parking garage, parking structure, and/or storage area and appurtenant to his Unit must do so by a written application to the President of the Owners' Association or his designee. The President or his designee shall forthwith prepare and execute an amendment to the Declaration, and appropriate exhibits thereto, reassigning all rights, responsibilities and obligations which apply to the Limited Common Elements. Upon execution of the reassignment, the

repared document together with an invoice for the of preparation. Such amendment shall not bede effective until the reassignment is returned, acknowledged by all unit owners involved in the reaslighment together with the receipt of the payment for rosts. Approval of the application for reassignment of a Limited Common Element shall be by majority rote of the Board of Directors. Any assignment heremider is subject to the prior written approval of the solder of any first mortgage emcumbering the Unit ; rom which the assignment is to be made.

pection 3. Relocation of Boundaries Between Units. The unit owners who desire to relocate the boundaries etween their Units must notify in writing the Board of Directors whose responsibility it shall be (1) to approve such notice within 45 days; (2) upon such approval to forthwith prepare and execute an amendment to the Declaration identifying the Units and containing the conveyance between the unit owners; (3) accept the reasonable reallocation made by the owners contained as between the Units of the undivided interest in the Common Elements appertaining to those Units; 4) accept the reasonable reallocation made by the nit owners involved of the number of votes in the wners' Association assigned to the Units, including the proportionate reallocation of liability or Common Expenses and rights to common profits; 5) prepare amendments to these By-Laws reflect-

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ing the reallocation of undivided interest in the Common Blements and votes in the Owners! Association and liability for Common Expenses and rights to Common Profits; (6) have prepared by a registered architect or engineer such changes in boundaries of the appropriate Units; (7) assess to the unit owners involved the cost of the preparation of the documents required hareby. The unit owners undertaking such relocation shall obtain the prior written approval of the holders of first mortgages encumbering the respective Units, and bear all the costs of undertaking the relocation of the boundaries. The unit owners must supply with the notice to the Board of Directors, proof that the relocation will in no way weaken the structural integrity of the Building.

It shall be the duty of the unit owners involved to record the amendments and documents in accordance with these By-Laws and the laws of any political division of the State of Virginia.

Section 4. Subdivision of a Unit. Upon written notice to the Board of Directors by a unit owner of a Commercial Unit of his intention to subdivide his Unit, the Board of Directors shall within 45 days approve such notice by majority vote and prepare and execute the following: (1) an amendment to the Declaration assigning new identifying numbers to the new Units created together with a reasonable reallocation of the undivided interest in the Limited Common Elements acceptable to the subdividing owner who may specify in his written application that this assignment shall be made to one or more but less than all of the new Units. If the subdividing owner specifies no allocation of the Limited Common Elements between new Units, new Units shall jointly share all rights and shall be equally liable jointly and severally for all obligations of the original Unit; (2) an amendment to these ByLaws, acceptable to the subdividing owner; reasonably allocating to the new Units the votes in the Owners' Association and a proportionate allocation based on the size of the new Units of the liability for Common Expenses and rights to common profits including an assignment of the undivided interest in the Common Elements; (3) have prepared by a registered architect or engineer an amendment to the plats and plans indicating the new boundaries and identifying numbers: (4) deliver to the subdividing owner the above documents together with an invoice for the cost of their preparation.

The subdividing owner shall record the above documents and pay all costs assessed in accordance with these By-Laws and the laws of any political division of this state before construction on the subdivision may commence. The subdividing owner must bear all costs of undertaking the subdivision of his Unit.

This Section shall have no application to the conversion of convertible space.

Section 5. Alteration within Units. A unit owner who acquires an adjoining Unit and desires to remove any part of the intervening partition must, upon written application to the board of Directors, demonstrate that such removal will in no way weaken a bearing wall or bearing column and that no portion of any Common Element,

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other than the partition itself, will be damaged, destroyed, or endangered. A unit owner may make improvements or alterations within his Unit which do not impair the structural integrity of the Building or lessen the support for any portion of the Condominium. No Residential or Commercial owner may make any improvements or changes which will change the exterior appearance of the Condominium Project. Any unit owner making prior written approval to this Section shall obtain the encumbering both Units.

Section 6. Conversion of Convertible Spaces. The Declarant may convert all or any portion of any convertible space into one or more Units and/or Common Elements, including, without limitation, Limited Common Elements. The Declarant shall prepare, execute, and record an amendament to the Declaration describing the conversion. Such amendment shall assign an identifying number to each Unit formed out of a convertible space and shall allocate to each Unit a portion of the undivided interest in the Common Elements appertaining to that space. Such amendments shall describe or delineate the Limited Common Elements formed out of the convertible space, showing or designating the Unit or Units to which each is assigned. If all or any portion of any convertible space is converted into one or more Units in accordance with this Section, the Declarant shall prepare and execute, and record simultaneously with the amendment to the Declaration, an amendment to the Declaration, in amendment to the Declaration, an amendment to the Declaration, an amendment to the Declaration, an indication of future common profits, and liabilities for future Common Expenses not specially assessed.

The Board of Directors shall execute the documents and amend the Condominium Instruments as required by the Section herein for subdivision of Units but shall have no authority of approval or denial over such conversion.

### ARTICLE XII

### Insurance

Section 1. Insurance. The Board of Directors shall obtain and maintain, to the extent available, at least the following:

- (a) Insurance on the Project in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the full replacement value (i.e. 100% of "replacement cost") of the Building and Limited Common Elements (as determined annually by the Board of Directors) and with a replacement cost endorsement which provides for the payment of all losses without deduction or allowance for depractation. Such coverage shall afford protection against, at least, the following:
- (i) loss or damage by fire or other hazards covered by the standard extended coverage endorsement and additional extended coverage endorsement;
- (ii) such other risks as shall customarily be covered with respect to Projects similar in construction, location and use, including, but not limited to, vandalism,

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maliclous mischlef, boiler and machinery explosion or damage, and such other insurance as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine; and

- (iii) a master liability policy covering the Unit Owners' Association, the Board of Directors, the Managing Agent, all agents and employees of the above and all unit owners in residence or their tenants in residence.
- (b) Public liability insurance in such amounts and in such forms as may be considered appropriate by the Board of Directors including; but not limited to, water damage, legal liability, hired automobile, non-dwned automobile and any and all other liability incident to the ownership and/or use of the Condominium Project or any portion thereof; and
- (a) Workmen's compensation insurance to the extent necessary to comply with any applicable law, and
- (d) Such other policies of insurance, including insurance for other risks of a similar or dissimilar nature, as are or shall hereafter be considered appropriate by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. Limitations. Any insurance obtained pursuant to the requirements of this ARTICLE shall be subject to the following provisions:
- (a) All policies shall be written with a company or companies licensed to do business in the State of Virginia and holding a rating of "AAA" or better, by Best's Insurance Reports and a policyholder's rating of "A" or better.
- (b) Exclusive authority to negotiate losses under said policies shall be vested in the Board of Directors or its authorized representative, including any trustee with which the Owners' Association may enter into any Insurance Trust Agreement, or any successor trustee, each of which shall hereinelsswhere be referred to as the "Insurance Trustee" and all proceeds covering any loss shall be payable to the Insurance Trustee, or to his successor. All proceeds from an insured loss under such policy shall be held for the use and benefit of the Owners' Association and the owners of appropriate Condominium Units and their respective mortgagees as interest may appear. Such insurance proceeds shall be applied and distributed in accordance with the articles relating to insurance in the Declaration and these By-Laws.
- (c) In no event shall the insurance coverage obtained and maintained pursuant to the requirements of this ARTICLE be brought into contribution with insurance purchased and issued in the name of any individual Condominium Unit owner purchased as herein permitted by such owner of a Condominium Unit or their mortgages. Any "no other insurance" or similar clause in any policy obtained by the Owners' Association pursuant to the requirements of this ARTICLE shall exclude such policies from consideration.
- (d) All policies shall provide that such policies may not be canceled or substantially modified without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to any and all insureds named thereon, including any and all mortgagess of the Condominium Units:

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- (e) All fire and other hazard insurance policies shall provide that, notwithstanding any provisions thereof which give the carrier the right to elect to restore damage in lieu of making a cash settlement, such option shall not be exercisable when in conflict with the provisions of these by-Laws.
- (f) All policies shall contain a waiver of subis redation by the insurer as to any and all claims
  against the Owners' Association, the Doard of Directors,
  their agents and employees, the respective Condominium
  Unit owners; their Unit employees and agents. Independent contractors shall not be considered agents,
  employees or servants of the Board of Directors or of
  the respective Condominium Unit owners within the meaning of said waiver.
- ing of said waiver.

  (g) The insurance policy shall contain a provision that the insurance shall not be prejudiced:
  - (i) By any act or neglect of any occupants or owners of the Building when such act or neglect is not within the control of the Condominium Unit owners collectively; or
    - (ii) By failure of the Condominium Unit owners collectively to comply with any warranty or condition with regard to any portion of the premises over which the Condominium Unit owners collectively have no control.
  - Section 3. Individual Policies Recommendation of Declarant. The owner of any Condominium Unit (including the holder of any mortgage thereon) may obtain additional insurance (including a "condominium-owner's endorsement" for improvements and betterments to the Condominium Unit made or acquired at the expense of the owner) at his own expense. Such insurance shall be written either by the same carrier as that purchased by the Board of Directors pursuant to this ARTICLE or if written by another carrier, shall provide that it shall be without contribution as against the same. Such insurance shall contain the same waiver of subrogation provision as that set forth in Section 2(f) of this ARTICLE. The Declarant recommends that each owner of a Condominium Unit in the Project obtain, in addition to the insurance hereinabove provided to be obtained by the Board of Directors, a "Tenant's Homeowners Policy", or equivalent, to insurance against loss or damage to personal property used or incidental to the occupancy of the Condominium Unit; additional living expense, vandalism or malicious mischief, theft, personal liability and the like. Such policy should include a "condominium owner's endorsement" covering losses to improvements and betterments to the Condominium Unit made or acquired at the expense of the owner.

## ARTICLE XIII

Casualty Damage - Reconstruction or Repair

Section 1. Use of Insurance Proceeds. In the event of damage or destruction of any Residential or Commercial Unit by fire or other casualty the same shall be promptly repaired or reconstructed in substantial conformity with the original plans and specifications with the proceeds of insurance available for the purpose, if any.

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Section 2. Proceeds Insufficient. In the event that the proceeds of insurance are not sufficient to repair, damage or destruction to any Residential or Commercial Unit by fire or other casualty, or in the event such damage or destruction is caused by any casualty not herein required to be insured against, then the repair or reconstruction of the damaged Common Elements shall be accomplished promptly by the Owners' Association at its Common Expense, such Common Expense shall be assessed in accordance with the interest in the Common Element damaged. The repair or reconstruction of any Residential or Commercial Condominium Unit shall be accomplished promptly by the Owners' Association at the expense of the owner of the affected Condominium Unit. The ratable share of the expense of such repairs or reconstruction may be assessed and the lien for the same shall have all the priorities provided for in ARTICLE IX of these By-Laws.

Section 3. Restoration Not Required. In the event more than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the total number of Residential and Commercial Condominium Units in the Project are substantially damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty and members do not promptly resolve to proceed with repair or reconstruction in the manner set forth in the Declaration, then and in that event the Project shall be deemed to be owned in common by the owners of all of the Residential and Commercial Condominium Units in the same proportions as that previously established for ownership of appurtenant undivided interests in the Common Elements and the Project shall be subject to an action for partition at the suit of the owner of any Residential and Commercial Condominium Unit or the holder of any lien thereon, in which event the net proceeds of sale, together with the net proceeds of any insurance paid to the Owners Association or its members in common, shall be considered as one fund and shall be divided among the owners of all the Condominium Units in the same proportion as that previously established for ownership of appurtenant undivided interests in the Common Elements, as set forth in Exhibit D attached hereto, after first paying out of the share of the owner of any Condominium Unit, to the extent such share is sufficient for the purpose, all liens upon said Condominium Unit: In the event that either of the Street-Front Commercial Units are not destroyed by casualty damage, they shall not share in the distribution of proceeds hereunder.

### ARTICLE XIV

### Fiscal Management

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Owners' Association shall begin on the first day of January every year. The commencement date of the fiscal year herein established shall be subject to change by the Board of Directors should corporate practice subsequently dictate.

Section 2. Books and Accounts. Books and accounts for the Owners' Association shall be kept under the direction of the Treasurer in accordance with good accounting practices consistently applied.

Page - 27 - 800x 811 rast 449 Section 3. Auditing. At the close of each fiscal year, the books and records of the Owners' Association shall be audited by an independent Certified Public Accountant whose report shall be prepared and certified in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards consisting applied Taxed many such report the Owners' ently applied. Based upon such report, the Owners' Association shall furnish its members with an annual

financial statement including the income and disbursement of the Owners' Association.

Section 4: Inspection of Books. The Books and accounts of the Owners! Association, and Vouchers accrediting the or the twhers Association, and vouchers accrediting the ontries made thereupon, shall be available for examination by the members of the Owners' Association and/or their duly authorized agents or attorneys, and to the institutional holder of any first mortgage on any Condoinstitutional notder or any first mortgage on any Condo-minium Unit and/or its duly authorized agents or attor-neys, during normal business hours and for purposes reasonably related to their interests as members. Such inspection shall be allowed providing reasonable notice is given to the custodian of the books and accounts, but In no event may such inspection be employed to harass or unreasonably disrupt the normal work routine of such custodian. The holder of any first mortgage has the right to request the submission of annual reports and other financial data of the Owners' Association.

Section 5. Execution of Corporate Documents. With the prior authorization of the Board of Directors, all notes and contracts shall be executed on behalf of the Owners' Association by either the President or Vice President, and all checks shall be executed on behalf of the Owners' Association by such officers, agents or other persons as are from time to time so authorized by the Board of Di-

Section 6. Seal. The Board of Directors shall provide a suitable corporate seal containing the name of the Owners! Association, which seal shall be in the charge of the Secretary. If so directed by the Board of Directors, a duplicate seal may be kept and used by the Treas-

ARTICLE XV

### Amendment

Section 1. Amendments. The By-Laws may be emended by the affirmative vote of members representing Eighty per cent (80% ) of the total votes of the Condominium Project at any meeting of the members duly called for such purpose, and shall become effective only upon the recordapose, and snall become errective only upon the recordation among the Land Records for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, of an amendment to the By-Laws attached as Exhibit E to the Declaration setting forth such amendment to these By-Laws and only after thirty (30) days prior written notice to the institutional holders of all first mortgages on the Condominium Units in the Project. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by petition signed by members representing at least fifteen percent (15%) of the total votes of the Condominium Project. A description of any proposed amendment shall accompany the notice of any regular or special meeting at which such proposed amendment is to be voted upon.

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ARTICLE XVI

Mortgages - Notice

Section 1. Notice to Board of Directors. Any owner of any Condominium Unit in the Condominium Project who mortgages such Unit shall promptly notify the Board of Directors of the name and address of his mortgages, and, if requested so to do, shall file a conformed copy of such mortgage with the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall maintain suitable records pertaining to such mortgages.

Section 2. Definition. As used in this ARTICLE, the term "mortgages" shall mean any mortgages and shall not be limited to institutional mortgages, and the term "mortgage" shall include deed of trust. As used generally in these By-Laws, the term "institutional holder" or "institutional mortgages" shall include banks, trust companies, insurance companies, savings and loan associations, pension funds, and any corporation, including a corporation of, or affiliated with, the United States Government, or any agency thereof.

### ARTICLE XVII

Compliance - Interpretation - Miscellaneous

Section 1. Compliance. These By-Laws are set forth In compliance with the requirements of Pitle 55, \$79.39 through and including \$79.103, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended.

Section 2. Conflict. These By-Laws are subordinate and subject to all provisions of the Declaration and to the provisions of Title 55, \$79.39 through and including \$79.103, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. All of the terms hereof, except where clearly repugnant to the context, shall have the same meaning as in the Declaration or the aforesaid statute. In the event of any conflict between these By-Laws and the Declaration, the provisions of the Declaration shall control; and in the event of any conflict between the aforesaid Declaration and Title 55, \$79.39 through and including \$79.103, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, the provisions of the statute shall control.

Section 3. Notices. Unless another type of notice is hereinelsewhere specifically provided for, any and all notices called for in the Declaration or in these By-Laws shall be given in writing.

Section 4. Severability. In the event any provision or provisions of these By-Laws shall be determined to be invalid, void or unenforceable, such determination shall not render invalid, void or unenforceable any other provisions hereof which can be given effect.

Section 5. Waiver. No restriction, condition, obligation or provision of these By-Laws shall be deemed to have been abrogated or waived by reason of any failure or failures to enforce the same.

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Section 6. Captions. The captions contained in these By-Laws are for convenience only and are not a part of these By-Laws and are not intended in any way to limit or enlarge the terms and provisions of these By-Laws.

Section 7. Gender, etc. Whenever in these By-Laws the context so requires, the singular number shall include the plural and the converse; and the use of any gender shall be deemed to include all genders.

Section 8. Arbitration. A dispute arising between the Owners' Association, a unit owner, a Tenant in residence, or an assignee of any of these or a dispute between unit owners, their Tenants, or assignees shall be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association and the judgment thereby rendered shall be binding on all parties and may be presented in any Court having jurisdiction of the dispute.

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# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 6

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IN THE	CIRCIIIT	COLIDA EOD	THE CITY OF	ALEXANDRIA
IIV I M P.	CIRCUIT	COURTEOR		ALCAMIDIA

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC.	
Plaintiff, v.	) ) Civil Case No
GORDON RESIDENTIAL HOLDINGS, LLC, Serve: William T. Freyvogel, Registered Agent 8200 Greensboro Drive Suite 325	) ) )
McLean, Virginia 22102  Defendant.	) ) _)

### COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. ("FOA"), by counsel, pursuant to Virginia Code § 8.01-184, et seq., seeks declaratory judgment against Defendant, Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC ("Gordon Residential"), and in support thereof states as follows:

- 1. Forty Six Hundred Condominium is a mixed-use condominium located at 4600 Duke Street in Alexandria, Virginia that is comprised of over 400 units and that was created in 1975 pursuant to the Declaration attached as **Exhibit 1** to this Complaint (the "Condominium").
- 2. FOA is a Virginia non-stock corporation formed pursuant to the requirements of the condominium instruments and § 55-79.73A of the Virginia Condominium Act to oversee the management of the Condominium as its unit owners' association.



- Gordon Residential is a Virginia limited liability company that owns one unit in the Condominium known as unit 1518 which it acquired from Gordon Properties, LLC on August 7, 2008.
- 4. Gordon Properties, LLC is a Virginia limited liability company that owns approximately 38 units in the Condominium.
- 5. Bryan Sells is the managing member of both Gordon Properties, LLC and Gordon Residential.
- At least some of the members of Gordon Residential are also members of Gordon
   Properties, LLC.
- 7. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of FOA's Bylaws, attached as **Exhibit 2**, FOA holds its annual meeting on the first Wednesday of each October. One of the purposes of the annual meeting, assuming the required quorum is attained, is the election of members of FOA to serve on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 8. FOA has scheduled its 2011 annual meeting for October 5, 2011 at which, if a quorum is attained, the Board of Directors will be elected. Gordon Residential has identified five candidates to run for election to FOA's Board of Directors. The five candidates are Deneta Sells, Moneta Howard, Eliza Langdon, Brandy Greenwell and Nick Greenwell. Gordon Residential maintains that they are all officers of Gordon Residential.
  - 9. Deneta Sells is the wife of Bryan Sells.
- 10. Brandy Greenwell is the sister of Bryan Sells and is a member of Gordon Properties, LLC.

- On March 26, 2009, FOA's Board of Directors adopted Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, attached as Exhibit 3, to bring together and to clarify the requirements for service on the Board of Directors already contained in the Condominium Act and the condominium instruments. The resolution states, in part, that a member of FOA, either a natural or non-natural person, may have only one position or one representative on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. Therefore, for example, a non-natural entity such as Gordon Residential is entitled to one representative on the Board of Directors, assuming that person is elected pursuant to the Bylaws of FOA.
- 12. The portion of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 providing that a member may only have one position on FOA's Board of Directors is simply a restatement of the requirements of provisions of the Virginia Condominium Act and FOA's Bylaws defining a member and unit owner.
- 13. Article III, "Membership," Section 1 of FOA's Bylaws, "Members" states: "Every person, group of persons, corporation, trust or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which owns a condominium unit within the condominium project shall be a member of the owners association..." This provision makes clear that a non-natural person (such as a limited liability company) or group of persons is deemed a single unit owner or member.
- 14. Article V "Directors," Section 1 of FOA's Bylaws, "Numbers and Qualification" states: "The affairs of the Owners' Association shall be governed by the Board of Directors (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Board of Directors") composed of at least seven (7) natural persons who shall (after the first annual meeting of members) be members of the Owners' Association. At least one of the Directors, but not more than two, shall be owners of Commercial Condominium Units . . ."

- 15. Section 55-79.78B of the Virginia Condominium Act states: "If the condominium instruments provide that any officer or officers must be unit owners, then notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of Section 55-79.50, the term "unit owner" in such context shall, unless the condominium instruments otherwise provide, be deemed to include, without limitation, any director, officer, partner and/or trustee of any person which is, either alone or in conjunction with another person or persons, a unit owner." In short, this provision provides, consistent with the provisions of FOA's Bylaws, that a non-natural person or a group of persons who own a unit are deemed a single unit owner.
- 16. Gordon Residential is running five of its officers and/or members who are intended to serve simultaneously on the Board of Directors, assuming they obtain the requisite votes at the upcoming annual meeting. In other words, upon information and belief, it is Gordon Residential's position that although it owns a single residential unit, because it is a non-natural person, it is entitled to seek five seats on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 17. It is FOA's position that the Declaration and Bylaws of FOA, as well as the Condominium Act, as set forth in Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, limit Gordon Residential to one representative on the Board of Directors at any given time. It is FOA's position that a "member" of FOA, whether a natural or non-natural person, is entitled to only one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.
- 18. Members of FOA have asked FOA's Elections Committee and individual Board members whether Gordon Residential is entitled to have five people hold positions on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 19. There is a justiciable controversy between FOA and Gordon Residential regarding the issue of whether Gordon Residential is entitled to have five representatives sit on FOA's

Board of Directors and whether a single member can have multiple representatives on FOA's Board of Directors. Resolution of this issue is critical to the upcoming 2011 annual meeting because more than a dozen candidates are running for election to the Board of Directors and whether Gordon Residential is entitled to five seats on the Board of Directors will directly impact those candidates and may affect the results of the election of FOA's Board of Directors.

- 20. Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 further states that entities who are "affiliated" as defined in the Policy Resolution may only collectively have one representative on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. The purpose of this portion of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is to prevent any member owning more than one unit from doing indirectly what it could not do directly, effectively making an "end run" around the requirements of FOA's condominium instruments, and the Virginia Condominium Act, that limit a member of FOA to one seat on the Board of Directors at any given time.
- 21. The FOA Board of Directors has authority pursuant to Article V, Section 3 of FOA's Bylaws to promulgate resolutions necessary for the administration of FOA's affairs.

  Article V, Section 3 of FOA's Bylaws states: "The Board of Directors shall have all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the owners' association and the condominium project and may do all acts and things as are not by law or by these Bylaws directed to be exercised and done by the members."
- 22. The portion of Policy Resolution 2009-03 limiting "affiliates" to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time was implemented by FOA's Board of Directors to ensure that no single entity or group of related entities could dominate the Board of Directors and prevent representation of a wide range of interests of the over 400 unit owners. Otherwise, a member owning more than one unit could circumvent this limitation by conveying units to

related entities. Such a subterfuge would defeat these limitations and is properly prohibited by Policy Resolution No. 2009-03.

- 23. Gordon Properties, LLC has owned in excess of 40 units at the Condominium and currently owns approximately 38 units. On November 6, 2009 Gordon Properties, LLC conveyed one of its units at the Condominium to its managing member, Bryan Sells. On August 7, 2008 Gordon Properties, LLC conveyed one of its residential units to Gordon Residential.
- 24. The conveyance by Gordon Properties, LLC of units to Bryan Sells individually and to Gordon Residential was a subterfuge to evade the limitation set forth in FOA's condominium instruments, and the Virginia Condominium Act, limiting a member to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. There was no commercial or business reason for these conveyances; they were simply undertaken to evade the limitation of one member/one representative on FOA's Board of Directors.
- 25. Gordon Properties, LLC is running a candidate for FOA's Board of Directors, Lindsay Wilson. Bryan Sells is running as an individual for election to FOA's Board of Directors. Gordon Residential has nominated five individuals to run for positions on FOA's Board of Directors. Thus, these affiliated persons are seeking every seat on FOA's sevenmember Board of Directors.
- 26. Upon information and belief, Gordon Residential has taken the position that Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is invalid and unenforceable, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.
- 27. It is FOA's position that Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 is valid in its entirety, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time.

28. There is a justiciable controversy between FOA and Gordon Residential regarding the validity of Policy Resolution No. 2009-03, including the provisions limiting affiliates to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time. It is critical to resolve this controversy prior to the 2011 annual meeting because the resolution of this issue will impact which candidates may be elected to and may serve on FOA's Board of Directors. If this issue is not resolved and multiple directors are elected by one member or affiliated group, it could call into question the validity of the Board of Directors and any actions taken by that Board.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium,
Inc. respectfully requests that this Court enter declaratory judgment in its favor and against
Gordon Residential Holdings, LLC declaring the following:

- A. The condominium instruments establishing the Condominium, and the Virginia Condominium Act, limit a member of FOA to one seat on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time and, therefore, Gordon Residential may have only one representative serve on FOA's Board of Directors at any given time;
- B. Policy Resolution No. 2009-03 was validly enacted by FOA and is enforceable and binding in its entirety;
- C. Gordon Residential may not have a representative serve on FOA's Board of Directors if Bryan Sells, individually, or a representative of Gordon Properties, LLC, is elected to serve on FOA's Board of Directors; and
- D. That the Court make such further and additional declarations, and provide such additional remedies, as are just and necessary.

FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC. By Counsel

REED SMITH LLP

Michael S. Dingman (VSB # 30031)

Robert M. Diamond (VSB # 16036) Helenanne Connolly (VSB # 70911)

3110 Fairview Park Drive

**Suite 1400** 

Falls Church, Virginia 22042 Telephone: 703-641-4200 Facsimile: 703-641-4340

Email: mdingman@reedsmith.com

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# APPENDIX TO EXAMINER'S REPORT: DOC 7

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

# GORDON PROPERTIES, LLC,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO.

v.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC.,

Serve: Dewanda F. Cuadros (President) 4600 Duke Street, Unit #411 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

**DEWANDA F. CUADROS**, in her capacity as Member of the Board of Directors 4600 Duke Street, Unit #910 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

COREY BROOKS, in his capacity as Member of the Board of Directors 4600 Duke Street, Unit #1131 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

**ELIZABETH MOORE**, in her capacity as Member of the Board of Directors 4600 Duke Street, Unit #411 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

**F. J. PEPPER**, in his capacity as Member of the Board of Directors 4600 Duke Street, Unit #932 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

JERRY TERRY, in his capacity as Member of the Board of Directors 4600 Duke Street, Unit #1010 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

LUCIA HADLEY, in her capacity as Member of the Board of Directors, 4600 Duke Street, Unit #1109 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

and

KEVIN BRONCATO, in his capacity as Chairman of the Elections Committee, 4600 Duke Street, Unit #1524 Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Defendants.

# **COMPLAINT**

This is an action for injunctive, equitable and other relief brought by Gordon Properties LLC, against the Defendants for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty, election fraud and statutory business conspiracy, and for such other relief as set forth below:

# The Parties

- 1. Plaintiff Gordon Properties, LLC ("Gordon Properties") commenced its chapter
  11 case (the "Case") with the filing of a voluntary petition (the "Petition") on October 2, 2009
  (the "Petition Date"). Gordon Properties is in possession of its assets and is operating its business as a debtor-in-possession.
- 2. Forty Six Hundred Condominium ("Condominium") is a mixed-use high rise condominium project located at 4600 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia. It consists of one sixteen-story structure containing multi-family residential and commercial condominium units and two separate, detached street-front commercial units.
- 3. The Condominium was established by a Declaration recorded on November 16, 1975, in Deed Book 811, Pages 317, *et seq.* among the land records of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.
- 4. Section XV of the Declaration states that the "[a]dministration of the Condominium Project shall be vested in the Owners' Association in accordance with this Declaration, the By-Laws, Exhibits and amendments thereto. The Owners' Association shall consist of all Unit Owners in Accordance with the By-Laws attached [to the Declaration] as Exhibit E and made a part hereof." (Together the Declaration and the By-laws are referred to as the "Condominium Instruments.")
  - 5. First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc. ("FOA") is a



Virginia non-stock corporation incorporated on May 17, 1977, to serve as the "Owners' Association" required by the Condominium Instruments.

- 6. Defendant Board of Directors of the FOA ("Board") is the Board of Directors required by Va. Code Ann. §13.1-853.A and Article V, Section 1 of the By-Laws.
- 7. Defendant Dewanda F. Cuadros ("Cuadros") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, a member of the Board, and serves as President of the Board.
- 8. Defendant Corey Brooks ("Brooks") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and a member of the Board.
- 9. Defendant Elizabeth Moore ("Moore") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and a member of the Board.
- 10. Defendant F. J. Pepper ("Pepper") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and a member of the Board.
- 11. Defendant Jerry Terry ("Terry") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and a member of the Board.
- 12. Defendant Lucia Hadley ("Hadley") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and a member of the Board.
- 13. Defendant Kevin Broncato ("Broncato") is a resident of Virginia, a unit owner at the Condominium, and served as Chairman of the Elections Committee during FOA's 2009 annual meeting. (Defendants Caudros, Brooks, Moore, Pepper, Terry, Hadley, and Broncato are collectively referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants" and FOA and the Individual Defendants are collectively referred to herein as the "Defendants.")
  - 14. Gordon Properties is a Virginia limited liability company which owns thirty-nine



- 15. The ownership of the Gordon Properties' Units includes ownership of an undivided interest of approximately 19% of the common elements as established by Exhibit D to the Declaration.
- 16. Gordon Properties is a member of FOA with all rights and privileges of membership created by applicable law of the Commonwealth, the By-Laws of the Corporation, and the Condominium Instruments.
- 17. Article V, Section 1 of FOA's By-Laws provides that the FOA Board is to be "composed of at least seven (7) natural persons who shall (after the first annual meeting of members) be members of the Owners' Association." *See* Exhibit A attached hereto.
- 18. Article V, Section 5 of FOA's By-Laws provides that members of the Board are to be elected on a staggered basis to two-year terms.
- 19. Article V, Section 5 also provides that the directors will hold office until their successors have been elected and hold their first meeting.
- 20. Va. Code. Ann § 55-79.75 requires FOA to hold a meeting of its members at least once each year.
- 21. The Condominium Instruments require FOA to hold annual meetings in the first Wednesday of each October.
  - 22. The last election for directors at FOA was held in October 2006.
- 23. The two-year term of office of each member of the Board elected in October 2006 has expired.



- 24. Pursuant to the Condominium Instruments, the votes cast at an annual meeting are determined by and consistent with the percentage ownership of the common elements and, therefore, Gordon Properties' vote at FOA's annual meetings represents approximately 19% of the total votes available.
- 25. Article IV, Section 5 of FOA's By-Laws provides that "[t]he presence, either in person or by proxy, of members representing at least a majority of the total votes of the Condominium Project shall be requisite for, and shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business which affects the rights and duties of all unit owners."
  - 26. Robert's Rules of Order is FOA's parliamentary authority.

# The 2009 Annual Meeting

- 27. FOA abused its power in connection with the 2009 annual meeting (the "Annual Meeting"). The Chair of the 2009 Annual Meeting, Defendant Cuadros, failed to maintain order during the meeting and thereby prevented business that should have properly been brought before the association from being presented. Cuadros failed to recognize a member of the association for the purpose of making a motion to adjourn to a fixed time and date. Cuadros failed to proper follow procedures for conducting the meeting and taking motions and votes. Cuadros wrongly ruled that a motion passed when in fact it failed by an overwhelming majority, and Cuadros wrongly adjourned the meeting. Cuadros's conduct denied Gordon Properties the right to vote, all of which is more particularly set out herein. *See* Exhibit B hereto, Memorandum Opinion of June 2, 2010, United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Case No. 09-18086, Adv. Proc. No. 09-1304. Cuadros was aided and abetted in these actions by the other Individual Defendants.
  - 28. FOA noticed the 2009 annual meeting (the "2009 Annual Meeting") for October



- 29. FOA established a procedure whereby owners registered their attendance at an annual meeting and their respective number of votes prior to the start of the meeting. This registration was then used to determine if the necessary percentage of votes was present to establish a quorum.
- 30. Members representing approximately 38% of the total votes of FOA registered in person or by proxy for the 2009 Annual Meeting and were counted as present for purposes of determining whether a quorum was present.
- 31. Gordon Properties registered for the 2009 Annual Meeting and its approximately 19% of the total votes were counted toward the establishment of a quorum.
- 32. Two other individuals, Jane Brungart, who is a member of the Board, and Martina Hernandez, both of whom are independent of Gordon Properties, gathered registered proxies for the 2009 Annual Meeting representing approximately 15% of the total votes of FOA.
- 33. Together, Gordon Properties, Brungart, and Hernandez held approximately 34% of the total available votes and more than 90% of the votes registered for the 2009 Annual Meeting.
- 34. The 2009 Annual Meeting was called to order by Defendant Cuadros as President of FOA. Caudros proceeded to chair the 2009 Annual Meeting.
- 35. The chairman of FOA's elections committee, Kevin Broncato, reported to Cuadros that, based on the registration, there was an insufficient number of votes to establish a quorum.
  - 36. At least three members of the Board (Defendants Cuadros, Terry, and Brooks)



and the chair of FOA's election committee (Broncato) were present in person at the 2009 Annual Meeting, but were not counted for quorum purposes because they intentionally did not register their votes before entering the meeting room.

- 37. Other members of FOA who did not register may also have been present in person at the 2009 Annual Meeting and were not counted for purposes of establishing a quorum.
- 38. When Broncato reported that the number of votes "present" at the meeting were insufficient to establish a quorum, he knew that number to be false because he knew that he and others present in person at the meeting were not counted for purposes of establishing a quorum.
- 39. Cuadros knew when she began to preside over the meeting that she had not registered her votes as present at the meeting for quorum purposes.
- 40. After receiving Broncato's report that no quorum was established, Cuadros then announced that there was no quorum for the 2009 Annual Meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn.
- 41. Brungart was the first to respond. Brungart rose and moved to adjourn the meeting for 30 days.
- 42. Cuadros then told Brungart that she was not recognized and recognized Broncato instead.
- 43. Broncato then moved to adjourn *sine die*. The motion was seconded by Defendant Terry.
- 44. Cuadros knew when she recognized Broncato for purposes of making a motion to adjourn that he had not registered his votes as present at the meeting for quorum purposes.
- 45. Cuadros knew when she accepted a second on the Broncato motion from Terry that he had not registered his votes as present at the meeting for quorum purposes.



- 46. Defendants Cuadros, Terry, Brooks, and Broncato were present in person and participated fully in the meeting even though they knew they had not registered as present and were not being counted for quorum purposes.
- 47. The Individual Defendants deliberately and intentionally failed to count everyone present in person at the 2009 Annual Meeting when making the determination as to whether a quorum had been established.
- 48. The Individual Defendants took these actions with the intent to deprive Gordon Properties and other members of FOA of the opportunity to vote for and elect a Board of Directors.
- 49. The members of FOA, including Gordon Properties, were improperly denied their right to elect a Board of Directors.
- 50. Cuadros was an experienced chairperson, skilled at running meetings, and familiar with the basics of Robert's Rules of Order.
- 51. Cuadros took a voice vote on the Broncato motion to adjourn, announced that the motion passed, and, without recognizing anyone else or providing sufficient time for anyone else to speak or seek recognition, adjourned the meeting.
- 52. During the brief voice vote on Broncato's motion, Brungart, Hernandez, and Gordon Properties voted "no."
- 53. Cuadros knew that the votes in FOA were weighted and that the outcome of the vote on the Broncato motion should not have been based upon either the volume of the voices or the number of people responding but upon the weight of the votes.
  - 54. Cuadros knew that Gordon Properties, Brungart, and Hernandez, independently



- 55. Cuadros knew that a sufficient number of votes in FOA voted "no" to defeat the Broncato motion.
- 56. Cuadros willfully and intentionally ruled the Broncato motion passed when she knew or should have known that it failed.
- 57. Caudros also failed to provide sufficient time after the Broncato motion to give those in attendance an opportunity to object to the adjournment or take other action with respect to the meeting.
- 58. Had Cuadros provided sufficient time after declaring the Broncato motion passed and before declaring the meeting adjourned, Gordon Properties would have asked for a division of the house or would have otherwise objected to the ruling of the chair.
- 59. By declaring the Broncato motion passed notwithstanding the votes of Brungart, Hernandez, and Gordon Properties and by failing to provide sufficient time to request a division or to object to the ruling of the chair, the Defendants denied Gordon Properties its right to vote.
- 60. Cuadros willfully and intentionally did not allow sufficient time after declaring the Broncato motion passed for anyone to speak or seek recognition before declaring the meeting adjourned.
- 61. The individual Defendants engaged in willful misconduct at the 2009 Annual Meeting for the purpose of perpetuating the Board in office and to prevent Gordon Properties and other unit owners from exercising their right to vote and elect directors.
- 62. The manner in which the meeting was conducted was an intentional abuse of corporate power.



63. FOA never rescheduled the 2009 Annual Meeting.

# The 2010 Annual Meeting

- 64. FOA noticed the 2010 annual meeting (the "2010 Annual Meeting") for October 6, 2010, the first Wednesday in October 2010.
- 65. On September 29, 2010, FOA sent a notice to Gordon Properties that FOA was canceling the 2010 Annual Meeting. A copy of the cancellation notice is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit C.
- 66. The stated purpose for canceling the 2010 Annual Meeting was that FOA did not want to allow Gordon Properties the right to vote and that denying Gordon Properties the right to vote would constitute a violation of the automatic stay.
  - 67. Gordon Properties subsequently requested a special meeting.
- 68. The request, although valid, was denied and the holdover directors elected in 2005 and 2006 in addition to those appointed to fill vacancies remain on the board.

# **COUNT I (Corporate Election Fraud)**

- 69. Gordon Properties incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 68 as if fully set forth herein.
- 70. The Defendants engaged in willful acts of corporate election fraud for the purpose of perpetuating themselves in office and to prevent Gordon Properties and other unit owners from exercising their right to vote and elect directors.
- 71. Defendants' actions at the 2009 Annual Meeting and preceding the 2010 Annual Meeting, as noted above, constituted false representations of material fact.
- 72. The Defendants' made these representations knowingly and with the intent to mislead the Plaintiff and other unit owners.



- 73. As a result of Defendants' misrepresentations, Gordon Properties was forced to rely on these representations.
- 74. Gordon Properties has been damages as a result of the Defendants' misrepresentations.

# COUNT II (Breach of Fiduciary Duty- 2009 Meeting)

- 75. Gordon Properties incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 74 as if fully set forth herein.
- 76. The Individual Defendants, as officers, directors, and committee chair of FOA, owed a fiduciary duty to the members of FOA, including Gordon Properties, to conduct the 2009 Annual Meeting in accordance with the Condominium Instruments, the Condominium Act, and the Virginia Non-stock Corporation Act, that was free from fraud, malfeasance and official misconduct.
- 77. The Individual Defendants breached that duty by allowing the 2009 Annual Meeting to be conducted in the manner set forth above.
- 78. The Individual Defendants, as officers and directors of FOA, owed a fiduciary duty to the members of FOA, including Gordon Properties, to conduct annual meetings in accordance with the Condominium Instruments and the Condominium Act.
- 79. The Individual Defendants breached that duty for the reasons stated herein and by failing to conduct annual meetings since 2006.
  - 80. The Individual Defendants acted willfully and in bad faith.
- 81. The Individual Defendants' breaches of fiduciary duty prevented Gordon Properties and the other members of FOA from exercising their right to vote for directors.
  - 82. The Individual Defendants' breaches of fiduciary duty prevented the 2009 Annual



Meeting from being properly called to order, properly conducted, and properly adjourned, rendering the meeting void.

# **COUNT III (BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY- 2010 Meeting)**

- 83. Gordon Properties incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 82 as if fully set forth herein.
- 84. The Individual Defendants, as officers, directors, and committee chair of FOA, owed a fiduciary duty to the members of FOA, including Gordon Properties, to conduct the 2010 Annual Meeting in accordance with the Condominium Instruments, the Condominium Act, and the Virginia Non-stock Corporation Act, that was free from fraud, malfeasance and official misconduct.
- 85. The Individual Defendants breached that duty by canceling the 2010 Annual Meeting in the manner set forth above.
- 86. The Individual Defendants, as officers and directors of FOA, owed a fiduciary duty to the members of FOA, including Gordon Properties, to conduct annual meetings in accordance with the Condominium Instruments and the Condominium Act.
- 87. The Individual Defendants breached that duty by canceling the 2010 Annual Meeting and by failing to conduct annual meetings since 2006.
  - 88. The Individual Defendants acted willfully and in bad faith.
- 89. The Individual Defendants' breaches of fiduciary duty prevented Gordon Properties and the other members of FOA from exercising their right to vote for directors.
- 90. The Individual Defendants' breaches of fiduciary duty prevented the 2010 Annual Meeting.



## **COUNT IV**

(Combination to Injure Gordon Properties in its Reputation, Trade, Business and Profession – Virginia Code §§ 18.2-499, 18.2-500)

- 91. Gordon Properties incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 82 as if fully set forth herein.
- 92. The Individual Defendants, acting in concert, and acting in their own personal interests, and/or acting without any legitimate corporate authority by virtue of their fraudulent and intentional prevention of annual board elections in order to attempt to perpetuate their corporate titles, agreed and conspired to harm Gordon Properties through the intentional misapplication of the methodology use to calculate assessments against Gordon Properties.
- 93. The Individual Defendants were acting in their own self-interest, and not in the best interests of the corporation, by fraudulently attempting to preserve their own corporate positions and power through the illegal and improper failures to conduct annual elections.
- 94. The Individual Defendants were acting without lawful corporate authority by virtue of the fact that they "held" their offices and membership on the board of directors solely by virtue of their intentional and improper cancellation of the annual elections. Thus, the extension of the terms of the Individual Defendants was without legitimate basis, resulting in their acting in their individual capacities.
- 95. The concerted actions of the Individual Defendants, in preventing Gordon Properties from lawfully participating in annual elections, were committed to intentionally, purposefully, and without lawful justification injure Gordon Properties' business, reputation, or trade, and these actions did in fact harm Gordon Properties, with such harm including damage to Gordon Properties' business financially through the continued assertion of the improper assessment amounts, damage to Gordon Properties' reputation in the community by asserting



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that it was delinquent through the non-payment of these improper assessment amounts, and such other harm and damages as shall be proven at trial.

96. Pursuant to Virginia Code §§18.2-499 and -500, Gordon Properties is entitled to three-fold damages, including but not limited to lost profits, costs of litigation, and reasonable attorneys fees.

WHEREFORE, Gordon Properties, LCC, by counsel, respectfully prays that this Court grant the following relief:

- a. determine that the Defendants' conduct at the 2009 Annual Meeting constituted fraud, willful misconduct, and breach of fiduciary duty;
- b. determine that the Defendants' conduct at the 2010 Annual Meeting constituted fraud, willful misconduct, and breach of fiduciary duty.
- c. Compensatory damages of \$1,000,000, jointly and/or severally against all the Individual Defendants, and thereafter multiplied three times plus litigation costs and reasonable attorneys fees under Count IV.
  - d. Punitive damages of \$350,000 against each of the Individual Defendants
  - e. Plus any other relief that the Court deems equitable and just.

Respectfully submitted,

GORDON PROPERTIES, LLC
By Counsel

Bruce M Blanchard, Esquire (VSB# 23778) Stephen A. Cobb, Esquire (VSB# 75876) Counsel for Gordon Properties, LLC Odin Feldman & Pittleman PC



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FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINEUM

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BY-LAWS :

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. OWNERS | ASSOCIATION .

OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDONINIUM ARTICLE I

Name and Location

Section I. Name and Location. The name of this forporation is the "Owners" Association of FORTY SIXO
MUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC. (hereinafter referred to as
"Owners" Association"). Its principal office is located at 4600 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virgindar

Section 2. These By-Laws are established in contem-

Section 2. These By-Laws are established in contemplation of and pursuant to Article 55, \$79.39, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended and for the administration of the Building or Buildings constituted into a Condominium Project known as FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM which is located at the address set forth in Section 1 of this ARTICLE.

# ARTICLE II

Definitions Section 1. Declaration. "Declaration" as used herein means that certain Declaration made the Toting of
November 1975, by FORTY SIX HUNDRED CORPORATION pursuant to Article 55, 579 39 through and including \$79.103, Cade of Virginia (1950), as amended, by
which certain described premises are submitted to a
Condominium Project and which Declaration is recorded
Condominium Project and which Declaration is recorded. among the Land Records for the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Section 2. Other Definitions. Unless it is plainly evident from the context that a different meaning is intended all cener terms used herein shall have the same meaning as they are defined to have in the Declaration or in Article 55, 579, 41, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. The word "Declarant" as used hereinafter refers to FORTY SIX HUBBURD CORPORATION, Unless otherwise indicated hereinafter, the term "Common Elements" shall include both "General" and "Limited" Common Elements.

Membership

Section 1. Members. Levery person; group of persons, corporation, trust or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which owns a Condominium Unit within the Condominium Project shall be a nember of the Owners' Association, provided, however, that any person group of persons, corporation,

Unit within the Condominium Project shall be a nember of the Owners' Association, provided, however, that any person, group of persons, corporation, trust, or other legal entity, or any combination thereof, which holds such interest solely as security for the performance of an obligation shall not be a member. Every member shall remain a member of said Association until such time as his owner—ship ceases, for any reason, at which time his membership in said Association shall submatically cease.

Section 2. Membership Certificates. An the event the Board of Directors considers it necessary or appropriate to issue membership certificate or the like, then each such membership certificate shall state that the Owners' Association is organized under the laws of the State of Virginia, the name of the registered holder or holders of the membership represented thereby, and shall be in such form as shall be approved by the Board of Directors'. Numbership certificates shall be consecutively numbered, bound in one or more books, and shall be issued thereform upon certification as to the transfer of title to the Condominium Unit to which such association is appurtenant. upon certification as to the frequency of title to the Condominium Unit to which such a absorbing is apportenant. Membership is not otherwise because by the President or a Vice President and the Secretary or an Assistant. Secretary and shall be sealed with vice corporate seal.

Section 3. Lost Certificates. The Board of Directors may direct that a new certificates or certificates be issued in place of any certificate or certificates previously issued by the Owners' Association and alleged to have been deatroyed or that, upon the making of an affidavit of the race by the person claiming the membership certificate to be lost or destroyed. When authorizing the immande of a new certificate or certificates, the immande of a new certificate or certificates, the stroyed. When authorizing men innumed of a new cortificate or certificates, the main or parectors may, in its discretion, and as a contint a precedent to the isquance thereof, require the resintered hidder of such lost of deskroyed certificate to believes, or his light representative, to accord the sample much manner as the Board of Directors had it require and to give the owners. Association is such summer the Board of Directors may require a ladeaulty account any claim that may be made to Owners! Association.

Section 4. Elquidation Rights. In the event of any voluntary or involuntary distance of the Owners' Association, each member of the feet Association shall be entitled to receive out of the events of the events' Association available for the feet at the owners' an amount equal to that proper on of such assets which is shown in Exhibit D, to the

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ARTICLE IV

Necting of Members

section 1. Place of Meetings: Meetings of the membership shall be held at the principal office of place of business of the Confers' Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the membership as may be designated by the Boards of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Necting. The first annual meeting of the members of the Ownersk Association shall be held within one hundred eighty (180) days after formation of the Owners' Association, as set forth in the "Declaration" of this Condominium Project. Thereafter, the annual meetings of the members of the Owners' Association shall be held on the first Wednesday of October each succeeding year. At such meeting, there shall be elected by ballot of the members a Board of Directors in accordance with the requirements of Section 5 of ARTICLE V of these By-Laws. The members may also transact such other business of the Owners' Association's as may properly come before them.

Section 1. Special Meetings. It shall be the duty of the President so call a special meeting of the members as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors or won a patition signed by members representing at least twenty percent (20%) of the total votes of the Project having been presented to the Secretary. The notice of any special meeting and the percent have and place of such meeting and the percent character has business shall be transacted as a special meeting electrons. We business shall be transacted as a special meeting electrons the percent of members to presenting factorism (2011) of the votes.

Section 4: Nation of Markings It shall be the duty of the Marking to sail a notice of each annual or special acching staring the purpose thereof as well as the time and place where it is to be held, he has unit comercial members of record, by U. S. and I return receipt requested, at his address as it appears on the nembership book of the Owners' Annochation, on if no such address appears, at his mant known place of address, at least twenty—as (1) days but not more than nine-ty (90) days his to such annual meeting, and seven (7) days place to mark special meeting, and seven (7) days place to mark special meeting, and service may be accountified by the delivery of any such notice to the beaker at his condominium in the same as a second provider a receipt of acceptance as a second provider a receipt of a waiver of a member of a members shall be a waiver of a in the same the accepts shall be a waiver of a in the same the accepts shall be a waiver of a in the same the accepts shall be a waiver of a in the same the accepts and purpose the

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Section 5. Quorum. The presence; either in person or by proxy; of members representing at least a majority of the total votes of the Condominium Project shall be regulaite for, and shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business which affects the rights and duties of all unit owners. For any business which may result in an assessment, amendment of interest in a limited Common Element, right or duty of fewer than all the unit owners, the presence, either in person or by proxy, of members of representing a majority of the votes of the units so affected shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Adjourned Meetings. If any meeting of members cannot be organized because a quorum has not attended, the members who are present, either in person or by proxy, may, except as otherwise provided by law, adjourn the meeting to a time not less than forty-eight (48) hours from the time the original meeting was called.

eight (48) hows from the time the original meeting was called.

Section 7. Voting. At every meeting of the members, each member present, in person or by proxy, shall have the right to cast the vote assigned to his Unit by Exhibit D of the beclarables on each membership which he owns. The vote of the members representing a majority of the total votes of the condominium Project, in person or by proxy, shall decide any question brought before such meeting, walless the question brought before such meeting, walless the question brought before such meeting, walless the guestion of attacks of free provision of statute or of the Articles of free projection, or of the bediaration or of these by Laws, a different vote, is required, in which case such express provision shall govern and control. Notwithstanding the fore-going estatement any question raised at a meeting which may result in an assessment, amendment of interest in all mitted common Elements in all mitted common Elements in all mitted common Elements with owners who will or may be so affected and a majority vote shall carry the guestion. Consecuent to any rights or obtingations with respect to any Limited Common Elements without the consent of all unit owners adversely affected thereby. The vote of any meeting as any chartest by any one of them present at any meeting as any color of the momer of a unit is present, the vote may be confided by any one of the new owner of a unit is present, the vote may be confided by any one of the new owner of the momer of a unit is present, the vote may be confided by any one of them owner of no objections or management account of the Consec Association to be more than their the count of the Consec Association.

Section 8. Provies Association

section 8. Proxies. A member may appoint any other person of the Declarant as his seek. A member may appoint any other person of the Declarant as his seek. A member properly acknowledged and be for a thin the control of the appointed time of each meeting. The self-based by its terms, any proxy shall terminate upon the aljournment of the meeting next following the appoint of the proxy or until sooner revoked by a write time in a member.

Section 9. Order of Business. The transmission of the sequence bers shall be as follows:

- The land certification of proxies. Fr. for a shear of meeting or waiver of.
- (a) harries of adjustes of preceding meeting.
  (a) Paperto to bificers; if any.
  (b) Reports of committees, if any.
  (c) Election of improvers of election.
  (d) Election of dispusion.

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In the case of special meetings; items (a) through (d) shall be applicable and thereafter the agenda shall consist of the items specified in the notice of the meeting.

### Dinachors

section 1. Headers and callification. The affairs of the Owners As an in the governed by the Board of Directors the same sametimes referred to as "Board of Directors the Section of at least seven (7) natural meeting of the same same time Owners' Association. At sat he transport of the same time cons, but not more than two, and the Carrier of Chamarda Units or if the Convertible space.

Section 2. Initial Directors. The initial Directors, shall be selected by the condensate and need not be members of the Owners' Association. Such Directors shall set from the date upon which the Declaration is recorded among the Land Labords for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, until the first annual meeting of the members or until such time as their successors. are duly chosen and qualified.

- Section 3. Freeze and Durico. The Board of Directors shall have all the awar and duties necessary for the administration of the administration of the second of the control and the Could have be to and mry do all such acts these By-Laws di-the members. The rected to the members.

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- (a) gar govide our is care, supkeen and surveillance of an dock of Project and the Common Blements and services of the Common and the provinces of the Law and the Declaration.
- and the provides the provides for the collection of assessments 1/4 constant from the members and y for the assessments 1/4 constant from the members and y for the assessments 1/4 constant from the members and y for the provisions of these By-Law (c) To lov assignation, hiring and/or dismissal of a serie y for the good working order of the proper care

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of the Common Blements and the profession of the Project in a manner consists and the profession of the constant of the consta Wisions of these By-Laws and the recessarion.

- (d) To promulgate and enfort advances and requisitions, and such restrictions to reliable and may be deemed proper respecting the entire common and maintenance of the Project and the unit of the Common Elements as are designated to proven there as onable interference with the use and occupancy of the Condominum Project and of the Common Elements by the members, all of which shall be consistent with law and the provisions of these Pyrhams and the beclaration,
- (e) To authorize, in their discretion, refunds from excess residual receipts on and as resiscated in the annual report.
  - and/or a reserve for replaced at it days adminion of Common Elements and to provide the third allection of · such amounts.
- (g) To comply with the provisions of the heclara-
- fact on hehalt of all uni in title to grant easement accept easements benefit:

  (i) Establish and manual the control of funds cell to provided.

the control of funds collected in provided.

Section 4: Management Roant. The mile of directors may, by contract in writing, date the mile of directors against the contract in writing, date the mile of placetors shall not be listed for a mile mound of placetors shall not be listed for a mile word duty, power or function so destroy such duty, power or function so destroy as then of two years from the credit of the contraction, the Board of Directors shall mother agreement. . , such agreement.

Section 5. Election and the bire of the Directors named herein a corporation shall expire corporation shall expire
heen elected at the first
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fifth, sixth, and seventh
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and hold their first meets ...

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Section 6. Vacancies among the elected Directors caused by any reason other than the removal of a Director by a vote of the membership shall be filled by vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, even though they may constitute less than a quorum; and each person so elected shall be a Director until a successor is elected by all the members at the next annual meeting to serve out the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 7. Removal of Directors. At a regular or special meeting duly called, any Director may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of the majority of the entire membership of record and a successor may then and there be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. Any Director whose removal has been proposed by the members shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. The term of any Director who becomes more than thirty (30) days delinquent in payment of any Assessments and/or carrying charges due the Owners' Association shall be automatically terminated and the remaining Directors shall appoint his successor as provide in Section 6 of this ARTICLE. An appointed Director may be employed at any time and only by the party of inscitution aroung appointed him.

Section 4. Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to birectors for their services as Directors.

After the first annual meeting of the members, ho remuneration shall be paid to any Director who is also a member of the Owners! Association for services performed by him for the Owners! Association in any other capacity sales a resolution authorizing such remuneration shall have been adopted by the Board of Directors before the measures are undertaken?

tion shall have been adopted by the Board of Directors before the nativical are undertaken?

Section 9 Oceanistion Maching. The first meeting of a newly elect the first vectors shall be held within ten (10) device to them at such place as shall be fixed by the five them at the meeting at which such Directors when itself and notice shall be necessary to the navity states there exists in order legally to constitute and a latter provided majority of the whole Board of the secret and states and a

Section is. For example, and a such that meetings of the Hoard of pressure by he half at such this and place as shall be determined come has to time, by a majority of the Bireco of our beast to (2) such meetings shall be held for as a least of bireco or shall be given to each Director, personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, at least which (3e) days prior to the day named for such meeting.

Section 11. Special Meetines. Special meetings of the Board of Dilectors may be called by the President on ten (10) days notice to each Director, given personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, which notice shall state the cite, place (as hereinbove provided) and purpose of the meeting. Special meetings of the Board of Directors that he called by the President or Secretary in like mental and on like action on the written request of at least matched (1/3) or the Directors.

Section 13. Additional Notice Requirements. Copies of all notes of opening shall be

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sent to the Managing Agent and to one agent appointed for receipt of such notice by all holders of first mortgages or first deeds of trust. The failure to give the notice required by this section shall invalidate any action taken at such meeting.

Page:

Section 13. Waiver of Notice. Before or at any meeting of the Board of Directors, any Director or any person required to receive notice under Section 12 of
ARTICLE V. may, in writing, waive notice of such meeting and such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the
filing of such notice. Attendance by a Director at
yany meeting of the Board of Directors shall be a waiver
of notice by him of the time, place and purpose thereof.
If all the Directors are present at any meeting of the
Board of Directors, ho notice shall be required and any
business may be transacted at such meeting.

Section: 14: Quorum. Ant all meetings of the Board of Directors a majority of the Directors shall constitute: a quorum for the transaction of business, and the acts of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the acts of the Board of Directors. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors there be less than a quorum present, the majority of those present may adjournment shall be provided in writing to the absent Directors at their Unit in the Condominium Project. At any subsequent meeting called pursuant to this sub heading, any dusiness which might have been transacted without further hotice.

Section 15. Action Without Meeting. Any action by the Board of Directors required or paralled to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting if all of the members of the Board of Directors shall individually or collectively consents in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors.

Section 16. Eidelity Bonds. The Board of Directors Shall require that all officers and apployees of the Commers' Association handling or any mobile for comporate or trust funds shall furnish a legale fidelih bonds. The premiums on such bonds that his sidelih to the Commers' Association.

# ARTICLE VI

### Officers

Section I. Designation. The principal officers of the Owners! Association shall be a translate, a vice President, a dent, a Secretary and a Transumer, all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Director. Translation of the Vide President shall be medianed to community with the owner of a Community who is serving as President or vice resident of the Owners' Association disposes of the for a term greater than six months he may a min to serve as such officer. The owner of mith the said of Community who conveys his the condemnity who conveys his the condemnity vice terminates his position as the condemnity vice terminates his position as the condemnity vice terminates and the condemnity.

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BOOK 811 PAGE 431.

A President or Vice President of the Owners Association who is a tiredwar, officer, trustoe or partner
of an emet of a Unit who is not a natural person and
ceased in the lationship with the unit owner shall
automatically for terminated as President or Vice Presideat of the Owners' Association. The Secretary and
Treasurer of the Owners' Association need not be members at the dwars' Association. The Directors' may
appoint an introduction and an assistant Treasurer
and bush other officers as in their judgment may be necessury. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be

Section 2. Election of Officers. The officers of the Owners' Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the organization meeting of each new Board and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors:

Section 3. Removal of Officers. Upon an affirmative vote of the rectors of the Board of Directors; any ficer may be managed either with or within the summer elected at any regular meeting the said of Directors or at any special is meeting and of Directors called for such purposes.

Section in ident. The President shall be the chief execution of of the Owner' Association. He shall preside a setting of members and of the Board of the shall have all of the general powers and define which are aboutly vested in the office of Preside of a exponential, including but not limited to the power to appoint constitues from Among the membership from that to the as he may, in his discretion, decide is a militable as as in the conduct of the affairs of the constitues.

Section With President: The Vice President shall take the line of the erecident and perform his duties whenever the erecident shall be absent or unable to act. If notice is estable to a chall as as the Vice President is able to a chall as as the vice President shall as a chall as a shall from time to the board of Directors.

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operation and Hima tempt of the Project.

Section Hangement and Common Expenses. The Owners Ass. The Owners of Lig Board of Directors, shall be a section the Condominium Project and the country of the provisions hereof and shall be a section fund hereinelsewhere provisions

water the fine the collection, electrical;
gas the state of the collection, electrical;
meters its the collection of the condensation of the condensation of the collection of the collection and electrical and recreations for the collection of the collecti

(b) The cost of in and extended liability insurancers, the Cost of a master
liability off an armidian the Declaration and the
cost of a master
the Owners Association
may

. es of a firm to manage . the extent deemed advis-together with the services the abl
of card of Directors of the card of Directors of D abl . of

such legal and accounting cessary to the operation of the

repair maintaining, replacing, repair mon Elements and such furnished the Common Elements as the Boar and such in a re pacessary and re shall have the exclusive he same; provided, however ed shall require the pair or otherwise maintain nium or any fixtures, applia

- BOOK 811 PAGE 434 Page 12 4 (f) The cost of any and all other materials, supplies, labor, services, maintenance, repairs, taxes, assessments or the like which the exercise melacion ts, required to secure or proper for by her of electrical or which in the discretion of the locat of electrical shall be necessary of proper for the parentin or the Common Elements, provided, however, that is my of the aforementioned are provided or paid for the benefit of a particular Condominium or Condominiums, the cost thereof shall be specially educated to the exercise owners thereof in the manner provided in submediation (g) of Section I of this Advantage.
  - (g) The cost of the maintenance or repair of any Condominium Unit in the event and maintenance of repair of any Condominium Unit in the event and maintenance of repair is reasonably necessary in the discretion of the Bond of Directors to protest the serve the appearance or very discretion of the Bond or is otherwise in the interest of the general welfers of all owners of Condominium Without reasonable written without reasonable written without reasonable written and the Condominium Unit proposed further that the cost the co is performed and, when so the state of the smouth thereof shall be amount of said Condominated and and the sessment shall become during lien and obligation of the provided in Article IX of the sessment shall become during lien and obligation of the sessment shall become during lien and obligation of the sessment shall become during lien and obligation of the sessment shall be sessment sh
- encumbrance levied against the desdeminium Project, or any portion thereof, which are in the cains a of the Board of Directors, constitute a lead a line the transport of any individual Condominium.
- (1) Any amount neces assessed against the proper of the Declaration or othe whatever nature assessed or ments of the Condominium Prand assessments levied against upon any property which wise required to pay, if a
  - (j) Any amount deeme the Board of Directors to replacement of any Common

may the tide, but he here a duties at out in ARTICLE V (d) of Section 1 and subsection 1 of this ARTICLE, shall not change Management without the promembers representing three votes of the Residential a sent at any meeting of the

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- purpose except for the provisions of ARCTCLE V, Section 4. herein.

  Section 3. Duty to Maintain.

  An Residential and Commercial Units. Except for an administration, if any, the owner of any Residential or Commercial Condominium shall, at his own expense, maintain the interior of his Condominium and any and all equipment, appliances, or fixtures therein situate, in good order, condition and repair, and in such clean and sanitary condition as may at any time be necessary to maintain the good appearance of his Condominium Unit and shall, at his own expense, maintain, repair or replace any plumbing and electrical fixtures, outlets and receptacles, lighting fixtures, refrigerators, Francers.
  - any plumbing and electrical fixtures, outlets and recepted tadles, lighting fixtures, refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, disposals, ranger, range boods, and/or other equipment that may be in such Condominium unit.

    B. Street Front Commercial Units: The owner of a street Front Commercial Units: The owner of a street Front Commercial Units and in good order, condition, and repair, and in such clean and senitary condition as may at any time be necessary to maintain the good appearance of his Condominium Unit:

    Section 4. Windows and Doors the coner of any Condominium shall at his own expense, cashasan burint in the interior surfaces of all windows or the coner of any Condominium shall at his own expense, cashasan burint in the interior surfaces of all windows or the coner of any Condominium unit.
  - Section 5. Access at Reasonable Times. For the purpose solelyzof performing any or the section and the country of quired or authorized by these sy level, or in the event of a bone fide emergency involving interesting an purpose to life. On property, the Owners' A sections on through its duly authorized agents or engage years a section in a single right, after reasonable efforts to all the content of a section of the content of the country to enter any Condents of the content of the

sidered to be reasonable under sidered some sever lines, water lines, to sever lines, electrical calculation as lines, storm drains, undergonable distribution systems, electrical calculation of the condominium Project and the public untilities to the Condominium Project and sidered necessary and appropriate by the conderly maintenance, preserved condominium or the peclaractic common Elements or for the safety, convenience and/or safety safety, convenience and/or safety, convenience and/or safety, convenience and/or safety, convenience and/or safety, safety, water, show or Limitation of Limitation of Linitation of Linitation of the Common Elements or by conduit, appliance of equipment shall not be liable to the common Elements or for safety safety safety and sa and not ranged 60

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and Aug sauna locker rooms and other appurtenances: Except as hereinelsewhere provided, no damages shall be claimed on allowed for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements to the Common Elements, or to any Condominium Unit on from any action taken by the Owners Association to comply with any law, ordinance or with the order or directive of any municipal , municipal or other governmental authoraty.

# ARTICLE IX

### · Assessments

Section 1. Annual Assessments and Common Expenses.

Each Residential and Commercial amount high pay in advance to the Owners' Association a monthly came (herein-elsewhere sometimes referred to as "Assessments") equal to one-twelfth (1/12th) of the member's propertionate share of the same required by the Owners' Association, as estimated by its Board of Directors, to make its minual expenses, including but in no way limited to the following (all of which are sometimes elsecters lessed marketed to as "Common Expense"):

- Condominium Project and services furnished including the charges by the Owners' Association for including services furnished by it and all costs required to be paid by the Owners' Association as set forth in ARTICLE VIII, Section 1 (a) et see, of the arily-Laws.
  - (b) The cost of funding all reserves astablished by the Owners' Association; including their repropriate, a general operating reserve and/or a reserve for replacements; and placements; and

(c) The estimated cost of the mance and replacements of the Condition for made by the Owners' Association.

The Board of Directors shall be a discount of the Assessment annually, quent intervals should circum.

The Assessments shall be pushed on the percentages of responsibility, set forth in her bit had the headara-

The Board of Directors is Osair Moration shall make reasonable efforts to ix the action the Assessment against each Concernies Unit to each Assessment period at least thir (a) days in advance of such date or period and shall at the third imperate a roster of the membership at additionable thereto which shall be kept a data to disable thereto which shall be open to imperiod any owner upon reasonable notice to the last the Assessment shall thereuse on the continuous first expension of the Board of disable the opens.

The omission of the Board of disable to the assessments hereunder for that or the next priod, that the fee

deemed a waiver or modification in any respect of the provisions of this ARTICLE or a release of any member from the obligation copying the Assessment, or any installment theroof, for that or any subsequent Assessment period, but the Assessment Fixed for the preceding period, but the Assessment Fixed for the preceding period, shall continue until a new Assessment is fixed. No member may except himself from liability for Assessments by a waiver of the use or emjoyment of any of the Common Elements apputtenant to it his Unit or by abandonment of any Unit belonging to him.

Fach Residential and Commercial owner shall pay the Assessment within fifteen days of the receipt of the Notice of Assessment.

Section 2. Special Assessments. In addition to the regular Assessments authorized by this Assessment year a special Assessment or Assessments, and the receipt of in part, the cost of any construction of a redementation for the purpose of the receipt of that year only, for the purpose of the receipt of a redementation ting the necessary fixture of personal finance in the related thereto, or for set their perpose of the members appreciated that any such Assessment is a personal finance in the purpose of the members appreciating two-life (2/2 days the total votes, of those unit owner will a vote and of the members shall duly call the total votes, of those unit owner will a vote and of the members are seven (7) days but not make than thirty (30) days in advance of which shall be deed to all members at least seven (7) days but not make than thirty (30) days in advance of which shall be deed to all members at least seven (7) days but not make than thirty (30) days in advance of which shall be deed to all members at least seven (7) days but not make than thirty (30) days in advance of special Assessment

of a Limited Common Element, such Special Assessment Shall be levied only against those affect of synam and in proportion to their inschaft there.

and in proportion to their immerst them

Section 3. Reserve for Reclamments. The warry Association shall establish and admining a save funds of an amount to be designated from time a class by the Board of Directors. Such small shall be do alted in a special account with an institution the amount of Which are insured by an gray of the director as authorize the depositing of the limit and institution in excess of the limit and such insurance if any portion of such funds and ured, any in the discretion of the Board of the

page 16

separated from the Unit to which it apportains and shall be deemed to be transferred with such Unit.

Section 4. Non-Payment of Assessment. Any Assessment 1.

Levied pursuant to these By-Laws, or any installment thereof, which is not paid on the date when due shall be delinquent and shall, together with integest thereon and the cost of collection thereof, as hereinafter provided, thereupon become a continuing lien upon the Condominium Unit or Condominium Units belonging to the measure against whom such Assessment to levied and shall bind such Condominium Unit or Condominium Units in the hands of the then owner, his heirs, devisees, personal representatives and assigns, all in accordance with the provisions of Title 55 \$79.84, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. The personal obligation of the member to pay such Assessment shall, however, remain his personal obligation for the statutory period and a shirt to recover a money judgment for non-payment of easy Assessment levied pursuant to these in them, or any installment thereof, may be maintained without foreclosing or waiving the lifen herein and by the aforessit statute created to secure the same.

Section 5. Remedies for Mon-Payment of Assessment.

ereated to secure the same.

Section 5. Remedies for Non-Payment of Assessment: Any Assessment levied pursuant to a securate or these By-Laws, or any installment the school into paid within the ten (10) days after the first, hall bear interest at a rate not to extend the payment (10%) personanum, and the Owners' Association by being an action at law against the member personal billipsed to pay the same, or foreclose the limit of the condomnatum of which events interest costs as a gonetic attracts of which events interest costs as a gonetic attracts fees of not less than twenty personal action of the una claimed shall be added to the second fees of the less than twenty personal action of the owners' Association shall when the owners' Association shall when the first mortgage on any Condomnation for the levied pursuant to be a law became delinquent for a period for a second fifth (20) by and in any other case where the per association of any Other obligation hereunder for the per association thirty (30) days: thirty (30) days.

Section 6. Assessment Certificate the Central Association shall upon demand at a sink or any valuer liable for any Assessment leads to the By-Laws (or any other party to the line By-Laws (or any other line By-Laws (or any other line By-Laws), a certificate shall be as a vide of a payment of any Assessment there is the line been paid. A charge not to exceed TER In the line by the Country I levied in advance by the Owners' Assessment cate so delivered.

The Owners! Association shall, upon demand at any. . time furnish to any member the is resetting his Unit, & certificate in writing signally an enfiner of the owners.

Association setting forth the control any capital expenditures anticipated by the owners. As sociation setting forth the control and capital expenditures anticipated. ment of the status and amount only process for replace-ment fund including the postioner such fund carmarked for any specified Project by the post of pirectors. A

transport of the professional states of the profession of the control of the cont

charge not to exceed TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) may be levied in advance by the Guners' Association for Leach certificate so delivered.

Section 7. Priority of Lien. The lien established

by this ARTICLE and by Title 55, \$79.84, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, shall have preference over any other Assessments, liens, judgments or charges of whatever nature, except the following:

(a) General and special Assessments for real established

(b) General and special Assessments for real established

(b) General and special Assessments for real established

(c) General and special Assessments for real established

(c) General and special Assessments for real established

(d) General and special Assessments for real established

(e) General and special Assessments for real established

(f) General and Gener

- (a) General and special Assessments for real estate taxes on the Condominium Unit; and

  (b) The liens of any mortgage duly recorded on said Condominium Unit, after rescipt of a written state—ment from the Board of Directors reflecting that payments on said lien were current as of the date of recordation of said mortgage.

Section 8. Subordination and Perturbe Protection. Notwithstanding any other provisions hereof to the contrary,
the lien of any Assessment and request to the contrary,
the lien of any Assessment and request to the contrary,
the lien of any Assessment and request to the contrary,
the lien of any Assessment and request to the contrary,
the lien of any Assessment and request to the contrary
the holder of any indebted and reduced by any recorded
the holder of any indebted and reduced by any recorded
first mortgage (meaning a sample of the priority over
other mortgages) upon such and the decide and faith
and for valuetreceived, and the decide and faith
and for valuetreceived, and the same and one realised which have
become due and payable prior to a same or care of foreclosure,
or any other proceeding in lieu of facebosure. Such sale
or transfer shall not relieve the paradesor at such sale
of the Condominium Unit real distillity for any Assessments
thereafter becoming due, as are the lieu of any Assessments
thereafter becoming due, as are the lieu of any such
subsequent Assessment, Assessment is the lieu of any such
subsequent have the same affect and the lieu of any claimed
shall have the same affect and the lieu of the same of
action against the transfers are charrement of said
Assessment.

No amendment to this lead to the lieu and the lieu and the

No amendment to this to the affect the rights.

of the holder of any such the interedness secured thereby) records the holder of the such amendment unless the holder of the such aness secured thereby) she can be such amendment.

The Hoard of Directors to the such thereby discretion, extend the provide the such thereby) not otherwise entitled the such thereby) not otherwise entitled the such that the such thereby) and otherwise entitled the such that the such thereby)

Section 9: Additional Decreased and mortgage secured by a Constitution of the payment of any Assessment of the payment of any Assessment of the payment of any Installment default in such mortgage thereby) but failure to the payment of and the protection of any such mortgage shall not a protection of and the protection of such first mortgage (or the interest of such modified or diminished)

Section 10. Definition. As used in these by-Laws, the term "Mortgage" shall include does of trust and term "holder" or "mortgagee" shall include the party secured by any deed of trust or any honestelary thereof. ARCICLE X

Usa Restrictions Section 1. Residential Condominium Unit. Condominium
Units on floors 5 through 16 shall be used for private
residential purposes exclusively except for such temporary
non-residential uses as may be pensitted by the Board of
Directors from time to time. Nothing in this Section,
or hereinelsewhere, shall be construed to prohibit the
Declarant from the use of any Canominium Unit which Doclarant owns for offices, promotion, archeting or disclarant from the use of any Communication Unit. which Do-clarant owns for offices, promotion, particular or dis-play purposes as "model apartments" for the period of the easement to facilitate makes his set out in the De-claration or from leasing any makesining Unit or Units which peclarant owns.

Section 3. Pinancial Responsibility, etc. The right to use or occupy any Condominion behaviors in the Project, reside therein permanently or otherwise, and the right to sell, lease or otherwise transfer or or very any Condominion Unit may be subject to section of the very any Condominion Unit may be subject to section of the very any Condominion Unit may be subject to section of the section of

Section 1. Leasing: No Contention Unit designated a Residential Unit shall be recommended to the designated a purposes or, in any event, so the less shan six (6) months, nor shall any constant better services, such as room service, food and beverage service, such services, such as room service, food and beverage service, such services, such laundry of bellboy service be functabled sto pertion of and Residential Condominium Unit is shall be contain a provision to the condominium Unit shall be subject and subordinate in all sespects to the right of the tenant to use and occur the Condominium Unit shall be subject and subordinate in all sespects to the provisions of the Declarations of the Separation of the Declarations of the Board of Directors may from time to the separation of the subsection of the Board of The provisions of this subsection of the Unit as subsection of the

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- -Section 5. Prohibited Oscarof Residential and CommerOctationits

  Telegraphics

  Tele
  - (d) No structural alteration, construction, addition, or, removal of any Residential or class white Condominium Unit of Common Elements shall be a made on a conducted except an strict accordance with the accordance of the declaration and these by-have
  - than common household peta chia and the common household peta shall not be septable to the common household peta shall not be septable to the commercial purposes in a semilic chia state of firec-
  - All pots must be registered with the Board of Direc-All pets must be registered with the Bard of Directors and shall be the absolute removability of the respective unit owner. All dops, while carries of any Unit shall remain on a leash and must be curied all pet shall be responsible for the removables any excression owner shall be responsible for the removables any excression to the curied beautiful Each pet owner is responsible for any each production with Common Elements or to any other Unit of the curied with the common Elements or to any other Unit of the curied with the curied with
- Elements or to any other

  (f) Except for such

  Declarate for promotional or the post of signs

  of any character shall be and of displayed upon, in, from or about any common flements. No owner of FORTY SIX, HUNDRED COMBONS

  a sign of any character the Duildings or elsewhere or areas specified by the Orac a Common cial Condominium the door of his Condominium as is appropriate, but no owner a Window on the exterior

- 100X 811 PAGE 442 Page 20 (g) No part of the Common Elements shall be y ... used for commercial activities of any character except for the normal use of the Common Elements on filoors
  3 and 4. This subsection shall not apply to the use of
  Condominium Unit by the Declarant for display, manketing, promotional or sales, or business purposes.
  - (h) No burning of any trash and no unreasonable or unsightly accumulation or storage of lifter, new or used building materials, or trash of any other kind shall be permitted within any Condominium Unit or upon any Common Flements. Trash and garbage containers shall not be permitted to remain in public view, but shall be deposited in the receptacles provided for that purpose.

    (i) No structure of a temporary character, trailer, tent, shack, barn or other outbuilding shall be maintained.
    - tent; shack, barn or other outbuilding shall be meintained upon any Common Elements at any time. No effecting, laundry, rugs or wash shall be hung from or spread upon any window or exterior portion of a Condominium Unit or in or upon a Common Element.
    - (j) No owner or other restlant shall install any electrical or telephone whee, telephone antenns, or other antenna, air conditioning all the other machine or device on the exterior of the Eulidia in FORTY SIX HUNDORED CONDOMINIUM or in such a fashion that it protrudes through the roof or any windows, or any walls of the soilding. Building.
  - regulations for the use of the disemplation of any nules and regulations for the use of the disemplatic or other the mover rules, which may from the to mise be adopted by the Board of Directors and promalysted enough the membership by them in writing, and the Board of Directors is hereby and elsewhere by these By-Lavs authorized to adopt such rules. such rules.

Architectural Control
and Alteration of Control
glad Construction of the could be active a situate
within the Project and any factor of the Detroined,
injum Unit or to the Comment of the Detroined,
and except for purposes of press a factor and repair
or as otherwise in these By-factor is to be prohibited to install, ere
prohibited to install, ere
hinge, screw, nail, build as a construct
any lighting, shades, screen, leader to be construct
casting or receiving devices, state is alked, sactor,
gutters, patios, porches, anive to be alked, sactor,
in color) in any manner whatsoave is the extension
in color) in any manner whatsoave is the extension
any Residential or Commental Constitution of the Common Elements Within the region unit to
complete plans and specifications, tanking the Location,
nature, shape; height, material, etc., type of construction complete plans and specifications, aleading the Location, nature, shape; height, material, solor, type of construction.

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and/or any other proposed form of change (including, thout limitation, any other information specified by a Board of Directors or its designated committee) as to harmony of external design, color and location in relation to surrounding structures and topography by the Board of Directors. Nothing contained in the section shall be deemed to empower the Board of Directors tors to authorize any change in conflict with any provision of the Declaration.

In the event the Board of Directors, or its designated committee, fails to approve or disapprove such design and location within ninety (90) days after said plans and specifications have been submitted to it, or in any event, if no suit to encount the addition, alteration or change has been remained prior to the completion thereof, approval with account required and this Article will be decided to have been fully complied with. The Section shall not any Street-Front Commercial Unit.

Section 2. Reassignment of Limited Commercial Unit.

fully complied with. The Saction shall not any Street-Front Commercial Unit.

Section 2. Reassignment of Limited Common 1. A unit owner who desires to assign the man flaments boated in the parking gares produced in the control of the Owners' Association or his designed of the control of the reassigning all right, as a second could be chibble, thereto, reassigning all right, as a second could be chibble, thereto, reassigning all right, as a second could be chibble, thereto, reassigning all right. As a second could be proposed decument together with a town the propared decument together with a town of the propared decument together with a towners involved a time together with the reassignment fall the stignment together with the reassignment and the together with the reassignment and the together with the reassignment fall in the costs. Approval of the application from which the assignment is to be made to the first form which the assignment is to be made to the propared to the propared to the propared to the control of Directors. Any under its subject to the prior written approval to forthwith prepare and except the reasonable reallocation and the together with the conveyance between the unit owners to the reasonable reallocation and the together with the conveyance between the units of the unit owners involved of the number of the common Elements appertaining the convey of the reasonable reallocation of the common Elements appertaining the convey have the reasonable reallocation of the common Elements appertaining the common Elements appertaining the common Elements appertaining the convey have the reasonable reallo (5) prepare amendments to these By-Laur r t-

## MAN 811 PAGE 444 ... Page - 22

ing the reallocation of undivided interest in the Common Plements and votes in the Owners! Association and liability for Common Expenses and rights to Common Profits; (6) have prepared by a registered architect of engineer such changes in boundaries of the appropriate Units; (7) assess to the unit owners involved the cost of the preparation of the documents required hereby. The unit owners undertaking such relocation shall obtain the prior written approval of the holders of first mortgages encumbering the respective Units, and bear all the costs of undertaking the relocation of the boundaries. The unit owners must supply with the notice to the Board of Directors, proof that the relocation will in no way weaken the structural integrity of the Building.

Tt shall he the duty of the unit owners involved to record the amendments and documents in accordance with these By-Laws and the laws of any political division of the State of Virginia.

Section 4. Subdivision of a Unit. Upon written notice to the Board of Directors by a unit owner of a Commercial Unit of his intensity a unit owner of a Commercial Unit of his intensity to subdivide his Unit, the Board of Directors shall wishin 45 days approved such notice by majority vote of the Declaration assigning new identifying number to the Declaration assigning new identifying number to the new Units. Created together with a reason of reallocation the undivided interest in the Fridad Common Elements acceptable to the subdividing a who say specify in his written application about the assignment shall be made to one or more but is a basignment shall be written application of the Limited Common Element because he will be units. If the subdividing a creatified no allocation of the Limited Common Element because he will be requally Tiable jointly and severally for all obligations of the original Unit; (2) at massiment to them By Laws, acceptable to the subdividing owner; reasonably allocation and a proportion as allocation based on the size of the new Units of the Limity for Common Expenses and rights to common a first including an assignment of the undivides and start in the Common Elements; (3) have prepared to the lightity for Common Expenses and rights to common a situation and a proportion of the individual of the individual of the common assignment of the undividual of the analysis including an assignment of the undividual of the analysis including the common and allocation and a proportion of the analysis in the Common Elements; (3) have prepared to the analysis in the common assignment of the undividual of the analysis in the common assignment of the undividual of the analysis in the common assignment of the undividual of the analysis in the common elements. (4) have prepared to the analysis in the common elements of the analysis in the common elements.

The subdividing owner and the above documents and pay all costs are accordance in those
By-Laws and the laws of any triviation whis
state before constructions and division was accordance.
The subdividing owner ment is costs of full making the subdivision of his state.

This Section shall have the fillication to the conversion of convertible space.

version of convertible states A unit Telestropho acquires an adjoining Unional test to remove any part of the intervening part states are union written application to the board of sa, donation that such removal will in no union bearing to bearing column and that

Page - 23 other than the partition itself, will be damaged, destroyed, or endangered. A unit owner may make improvements or alterations within his unit which do not impair the structural integrity of the Duilding or lessen the support for any portion of the Condominium. No Residential or Commercial owner may make any improvements or changes which will change the exterior appearance of the Condominium Project. Any unit owner making afterations pursuant to this Section shall obtain the prior whitten approval of all holders of first mortgages.

Section 6. Conversion of Contract of Section 6. Conversion of Contract of Section 6. Conversion of Contract of Contr

Section 6. Conversion of Convertible Spaces. The Deciglerant may convert all or any portion of any convertible space into one or more Units and/or Common Elements, in the Declarant shall prepare, execute, and record an amendament to the Declaration describing the conversion. Such amendment shall assign an identifying number to each Unit formed out of a convertible space and shall allocate to each Unit a portion of the undivided interest in the Common Elements appertaining to this space. Such amendament shall describe or deliments the Limited Common Elements appertaining to this space. Such amendament is formed out of the convertible space. Such amendaments formed out of the convertible space, showing or indesignating the Unit or Units an addict acconverted into one or more Units in accordance with this section, the Declarant shall prepare and measure, and record simple mentionant shall prepare and measure, and record simple mention the By-Laws, allocating valued interest to simple mention, rights to future common expenses not specially assessed.

and amend the Condominium Instruments as rectived by the Section herein for subdivision must be shall have no authority of approval ordered.

## ARTICLE MII

### · Insurance

Section 1. Insurance. The tain and maintain, to the Following:

- (a) Insurance on the vot on an amend to one hundred percent (100%)
  (i.e. 100% of "replacement of the continuous of the continuous flat and with a replacement cost endouse—ment which provides for the payment of all braces without deduction or allowance for the payment of the cost of the cost deduction of allowance for the payment of the cost ding:
- (i) loss or damage by fire or other hazer's covered by the standard extended covered; and additional extended covered; a covered.
  - (ii) such other rich as all customarily be covered with respect to Projects and in the hypothem, location and use, including the matter of the colism,

- malicious mischief, boiler and machinery explosion or damage, and such other insurance as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine; and

  (iii) a master liability policy covering the Unit Owners' Association, the Board of Directors, the Nanaging Agent, all agents and employees of the above and all unit owners in residence or their tenants in residence.

  (b) Fublic Hability insurance in such amounts and in such forms as may be concidented appropriate by the Board of Directors ducluding, but not limited to, water damage, legal Hability, hired automobile, non-dward automobile and any and alt other liability incident to the ownership and/or una of the condesimium Project or any portion thereof; and
  - (a) Workments compensation insurance to the extent necessary to comply with any opplicable lawy and
  - (d) such other policies of decurance, sincluding insurance for other risks of a dailer or distinct nature, as are or shall hereafter to maddened appropriate by the Board of Directors.
- priate by the Board of Directors.

  Section 2. Limitations. Any increases obtained persuant to the requirements of this 12 2000 charles substituted the following provisions:
- (a) All policies Shall be written with a company or companies licensed to do business in the West of Virginia and holding a mating of "and or Dethat, By Best's Insurance Reports and a mating adder to varing of "A" or better.
  - (b) Exclusive authority to negotiate losses under said policies shall be vested in the deard of Directors or its authorized representative, including any trustee with which the Owners' Association may enter into any insurance Trust Agreement, or any a measure trustee, and the child band all bands of the child bands. each of which shall hereinels where he referred to he cach of which shall hereinels where it reserved to as the "Insurance Trustee" and all proceeds covering any loss shall be payable to the increment respect, A in his successor. All proceeds done as insured last order such policy shall be held for the use and benefit of the Owners' Association and the owners of appropriate Condominium Units and their respective mortgages as interest may appear. Such insurance proceeds that be applied and distributed in accordance with the articles relating to insurance in the Declaration and these By-Laws.
  - (c) In no event shall the incurance coverage obtained and maintained pursuant to
    this ARTICLE be brought into constant with incurance
    purchased and issued in the mass a similar individual endominium Unit owner purchased to be individual endoowner of a Condominium Unit to the stages.
    "no other insurance" or similar to any paliobtained by the Owners' Asso is a second to the vaquirements of this ARTICLE similar to the vaitrom consideration.
  - (d) All policies shall go viole anchy like may not be canceled or substanting in all viole at least thirty (30) days printed and all insureds named thereon, in the any and it mortgages of the Condominium Union

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  (e) All fire and other hazard insurance policies
- (e) All fire and other hazard insurance policies shall provide that motwithsusading any provisions thereof which give the carrier the right to elect to restore demage in lieu of making a cash settlement, such option shall not be exercipable when in conflict with the provisions of these by favor.

  (f) All policies shall contain a valver of subther pogation by the insurer of to any and all claims adding the Owners Association, the Board of Directors, their agents and employees, the respective Condominium of Unit owners their Unit employees and agents. Indefined in contractors shall not be considered agents, so employees or servants of the Board of Directors or of the respective Condominium Unit owners within the meaning of said waiver

  (g) The insurance policy shall contain a proinvision that the insurance shall not be prejudiced:

  (1) By any act or neglect of any occupants
- (i) By any act or neglect of any occupants

  or owners of the Building when such act or neglect is
  not within the control of the designation Unic owners

  icollectively; or

  (ii) By failure of the Condominium that owners

  collectively to comply with the Condominium that owners

  with regard to any portion of the decayies over which
  the Condominium Unit owners as is dremises over which
  the Condominium Unit owners as is accommendation of De-
- Section 3. Individual Price and server and the control.

  Section 3. Individual Price and an economical of Decider of any mortes and sevential additional insuffice (individual as the contest additional insuffice as the contest and between the Condominum Unit made of additional at the contest by the particle of the contest his confidence of the contest his contest pursuant to this Aprill or if whitten by another carrier, shall provide the last be without contribution as against the same such insuffice as that set forth in Section 2(f) as the first head of birectors, the Project obtain, in addition to the insurance hereinal over provided to be obtained to the location of birectors, a "Penant's Homeowners to be obtained in the broad of birectors, a "Penant's Homeowners to be a such proper was or incidental to the occasion of birectors and contest and policy should include a such policy should include a such policy should include a covering losses to improve the section of the cover of the owner.

Casualty Damage - tracement action or Repair

Section 1. Use of Insurance - In the event of damage or destruction of single action action of the property repaired or reconstruction action of the original plans and new first the original plans and new for insurance available to the original plans and new formal the occasion of insurance available to the original plans and new formal the occasion of insurance available to the occasion of the occasion occasion of the occasion occasion of the occasion occasion

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Section 2. Proceeds Insufficient. In the event that the proceeds of Insufficient. In the event that the proceeds of Insurance are not sufficient to repair damage or destruction to any Residential or Commercial Unit by fire or other casualty, or in the event such damage or destruction is caused by any casualty not hovein required to be insured against, then the repair or reconstruction of the damaged Common Elements shall be accomplished promptly by the Owners' Association at its Common Expense, such Common Expense shall be assessed in accordance with the Interest in the Common Element damaged. The repair or reconstruction of any Residential or Commercial Consecutions Unit shall be Residential or Commercial Condeminion Unit shall be accomplished promptly by the owners' Association at the expense of the owner of the expense of such repairs or reconstruction may be associated and the lient for the same shall have all the priorities provided for its homeon. for in ARTICLE IX of these By-Laws.

Section 3. Restoration Not Reconfied. In the event more than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the total number of Residential and Commercial conductions Under the Project are substantially describes or destroyed by three Residential and Commercial inclaining Units in the Project are substantially designs or dealroyed by time or other casualty and measure in the proceed with repair or a substantial for inclaining the measure set forth in the Declaration in the measure the Project shall be doesnot and include and include the Project shall be for the included in a substantial undivided interests in the project shall be subject to a discontinuous proviously established for the project shall be subject to a discontinuous discontinuous undivided interests in the continuous discontinuous disco distribution of proceeds in

### ARTICLE ..

### Fiscal Mani -

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Cyffers' Association shall begin on the first day of January every, year. The commencement date of the fiscal year herein established shall be subject to charge by the Heard of Directors should corporate proctice addressed by distate.

Section 2. Books and Account to and account the Owners' Association and a count of the Treasurer in account tices consistently applies ution,

more considerable that the state of the stat

Section 3. Auditing At the close of sand fined years, the books and pasords of the consent Association shall be audited by an independent continued tholis accountant whose report shall be prepared and entitled in accountant ance with generally accepted anothing standards consists and ance with generally accepted anothing standards consists and accounts applied. Massed upon such report, the consers Ausociation shall furnish its members with an annual financial statement including the income and disburse.

Section 41 Inspection of Books. The Books and accounts of the Owners' Association.

Section 41 Inspection of Books. The Books and accounts of the Owners' Association and/or their duly authorized agents or atternays, and to the minimum unit and/or its duly authorized agents or atternays, and to the minimum unit and/or its duly authorized agents or atternays, and to the first but and/or its duly authorized agents or atternays, and to the structure of the owners' Association and/or trained by a secondary selection in the secondary selection of the books are accepted and for perposes the secondary selection of the books are accepted and the perposes of the owners' accepted and for perposes of the owners' accepted and for perposes of the owners' accepted and the secondary of the books and for perposes of the owners' accepted and the perposes of the owners' accepted and the secondary of the books and for perposes of the owners' accepted and the secondary of the books and the secondary of the books and the secondary of the books are accepted and the secondary of the books are accepted and the secondary of the books are accepted and accepted and the secondary of the books are accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted accepted and accepted accepted and accepted acce

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Mortgages - Bonics

Section 1. Notice to Board of Divestors. Any countroof any Condominium Unit in the Condominium Project who mortgages such Unit shall presently notify the Board of Directors of the name and advance of his marapages, and, if requested so to do, shall fill a conformed copy of such mortgage with the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall maintain shitable records pertaining to such mortgages.

Section 2. Definition. As used in this Artfork, the term "mortgage" shall mean any marchanges and in the conformation in mart arms, and the conformation in mart arms, and the conformation in the state of the conformation in the conformation of the seas the initial time of "institutional mortgages" shall include does to concern and the conformation of the seas to be a seas to be a conformation of the seas to be a seas to be a conformation of the seas to be a seas

Compliance - Interpretation - Hiscallingous

Section 1. Compliance. These by Laws are get forth
In compliance with the requirements of Riske 55, 579.39
through and including \$79.167, Codard Viliginita (1959)
as amended.

Section 2. Conflict: These By laws are suborded to the provisions of Tible 1. 1950 the factoristic and to the provisions of Tible 1. 1950 the factoristic and to the provisions of Tible 1. 1950 the factoristic and to the provisions of Tible 1. 1950 the factoristic and to the provisions of the second the factoristic and to the provisions of the second the factorist of the factorist of the Context, shall have the sea and the factorist of the Context, shall have the sea and the factorist of the provisions of the Declaration shall can be a factorist of the provisions of the Declaration shall can be a factorist of the provisions of the Declaration shall can be a factorist on the factorist of the provisions of the Declaration shall can be a factorist on the factorist of the provisions of the Declaration shall can be a factorist on the factorist of the provision of the Declaration shall can be a factorist on the factorist of the provision of the factorist of the provision of the factorist of the factor

Section 3. Notices. Unless another type of a decision in the received of the all notices called for in the received or the five baws shall be given in writing.

Section 4. Severability. The the event any percentage or provisions of these By-Levendrakes a detailment to be invalid, void or unenforces and marks half not render invalid, vota or marks to be invisions hereof which can be

Section 5. Waiver.

tion or provision of the been abrogated or waive ures to enforce the sm

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Section 6. Captions. The captions contained in these By-Laws are for convenience only and are not a part of these By-Laws and are not intended in any way to limit or enlarge the terms and provisions of these By-Laws.

Section 7. Gender, etc. Whenever in these By-Laws the context so requires, the singular member shall include the plural and the converse; and the use of any gender shall be deemed to include all genders.

Section 8. Arbitration. A dispute arising between the Owners Association, a unit owner, a Tenant in residence, or an assignee of any of these or a dispute to between unit owners, their Tenants, or assigneed shall be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association and the judgments thereby rendered shall be bis they as all parties and say be presented in any Court has a judgment of the dispute.

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Alexandria Division

In re:	
GORDON PROPERTIES, LLC,	Case No. 09-18086-RGM (Chapter 11)
Debtor.	
GORDON PROPERTIES, LLC,	
Plaintiff,	
VS.	Adv. Proc. No. 09-1304
FIRST OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF FORTY SIX HUNDRED CONDOMINIUM, INC.,	
Defendant.	

## **MEMORANDUM OPINION**

This case is before the court on Gordon Properties, LLC's Motion for a Preliminary Injunction to Enforce Automatic Stay and First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.'s opposition. The debtor asserts that the unit owners association denied it the right to vote at the October 7, 2009 annual meeting in violation of the automatic stay, 11 U.S.C. §362(a), and requests that the annual meeting which was adjourned sine die be reconvened. The court will deny the motion. While the actions of which the debtor complains were an abuse of power, they were not an effort to collect a pre-petition debt.

## **Background**

Forty Six Hundred Condominium consists of a main high-rise apartment building with both residential and commercial units and two commercial units adjacent to the high-rise building. One of the adjacent commercial units, a restaurant, is owned by the debtor. A dispute arose some years ago about the proper amount of condominium assessments that the restaurant unit should pay. The Board of Directors levied a significant condominium assessment against the restaurant unit which resulted in a number of law suits in state court. A judgment in favor of the unit owners association is presently on appeal to the Supreme Court of Virginia. The debtor owned a total of forty condominium units at the time of the 2009 annual meeting which constituted 19.7179% of the votes in the unit owners association.

The debtor was denied its right to vote as to all its condominium units at the 2007 and 2008 annual meetings and a special meeting held in June 2009, because it was delinquent in the payment of its condominium fees on the restaurant unit. By-Laws Article IV, Section 7. No annual meeting has been held since 2006 because there was no quorum at the 2007 or 2008 annual meetings or at the June 2009 special meeting. A quorum is a majority of votes in the unit owners association. By-Laws Article IV, Section 5. The members of the Board of Directors serve two-year terms, but

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Article IV, Section 7 of the By-Laws provides:

Section 7. Voting. At every meeting of the members, each member present, in person or by proxy, shall have the right to cast the vote assigned to his Unit . . . on each question for each membership which he owns. . . . No member shall be eligible to vote, either in person or by proxy, or to be elected to the Board of Directors who is shown on the books or management account of the Owners' Association to be more than thirty (30) days delinquent in any payment due the Owners' Association.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Article IV, Section 5 of the By-Laws provides:

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>Section 5.</u> <u>Quorum.</u> The presence, either in person or by proxy, of members representing at least a majority of the total votes of the Condominium Project shall be requisite for, and shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business which affects the rights and duties of all unit owners.

remain in office until their successors are elected.<sup>3</sup> The Board presently consists of seven members, four of whom are hold-over directors. They were elected in 2005 and 2006 and continue to hold office until their successors are elected. Three members were appointed to the Board by the incumbent members to fill vacancies. By-Laws Article V, Section 6.<sup>4</sup>

The assessment against the restaurant unit was unpaid when this bankruptcy case was filed on October 2, 2009. The debtor immediately sought a preliminary injunction asserting that enforcement of Article IV, Section 7 of the By-Laws violated the automatic stay imposed by §362 of the United States Bankruptcy Code because it was an act to collect a pre-petition debt. It sought to enjoin the unit owners association from denying it the right to vote at the annual meeting scheduled to be held on October 7, 2009. The hearing on the motion was held on October 7, 2009, just hours before the annual meeting was scheduled to commence. Without deciding whether enforcement of Article IV, Section 7 violated 11 U.S.C. §362(a), the court declined to issue a preliminary injunction because the short time the parties had to prepare for the hearing was insufficient to permit them to be fully prepared for the hearing.

## The October 7, 2009 Annual Meeting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Article V, Section 5 of the By-Laws provides:

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>Section 5.</u> <u>Election and Term of Office.</u> . . . At the expiration of the initial term of office of each respective elected Director, his successor shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. The Directors shall hold office until their successors have been elected and hold their first meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Article V, Section 6 of the By-Laws provides:

Section 6. <u>Vacancies</u>. Vacancies among the elected Directors caused by any reason other than the removal of a Director by a vote of the membership shall be filled by vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, even though they may constitute less than a quorum; and each person so elected shall be a Director until a successor is elected by all the members at the next annual meeting to serve out the unexpired portion of the term.

The annual meeting was called to order a few hours after the court hearing on October 7, 2009. A quorum was ostensibly not present.<sup>5</sup> Members representing 38.1467% of the votes of the unit owners association registered for the meeting.<sup>6</sup> The debtor registered its 19.7179% of the votes of the association. Two other individuals who, independently of the debtor, solicited and obtained proxies also registered themselves and their proxies. Of the remaining 18.4288% of the vote that registered for the meeting, the two individuals held about 15% of the total votes. The debtor and the two individuals held the overwhelming majority of the votes registered, approximately 92%.

The Chairman of the Elections Committee reported to the Chair of the annual meeting that there was no quorum. The Chair then announced that there was no quorum, asked for a motion to adjourn, recognized the Chair of the Elections Committee who moved to adjourn, heard a second, took a voice vote, announced that the motion passed and, without recognizing anyone else or providing sufficient time for anyone else to speak or seek recognition, adjourned the meeting.

In fact, the motion was defeated by an overwhelming majority. The debtor and the two individuals holding proxies all voted against the motion.

The vote was significant. The vote to adjourn sine die, that is, adjourn without setting a date to reconvene, meant that there would be no annual meeting and no election of members of the Board of Directors until the next annual meeting a year away. The incumbent directors remained in office

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Three members of the Board of Directors and the Chair of the Elections Committee were present at the meeting. None registered. None was counted as part of the quorum. By-Laws Article IV, Section 5 as well as the Virginia Condominium Act define quorum in terms of presence. Presence, as the By-Laws states, is "either in person or by proxy." Va.Code (1950) 55-79.76(a) and By-Laws Article IV, Section 5. Whether one votes or does not vote, wants to vote or does not want to vote, does not change the fact that one is either present (in person or by proxy) or not present. Their presence brought the meeting closer to a quorum. The presence of other unit owners who did not register raises the question of whether a quorum was, in fact, achieved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>The procedure the unit owners association utilized was to register individuals and proxies at the door of the meeting. Only those who registered were counted for quorum purposes and were entitled to vote.

because no successors were elected. (Their terms expired in 2007 and 2008.) All proxies expired. A motion to adjourn to a specific date would have adjourned the meeting to a particular date to allow further efforts to obtain a quorum. The proxies would not have expired and could have been exercised at the adjourned meeting.

The debtor asserts that the unit owners association denied it its vote in violation of the automatic stay. The unit owners association asserts that enforcement of Article IV, Section 7 of the By-Laws does not violate the automatic stay and that it did not, in fact, deny the debtor its right to vote.

## **Discussion**

## Does Enforcing By-Laws Article IV, Section 7 Violate the Automatic Stay?

The automatic stay prohibits all acts to collect a pre-petition debt.<sup>7</sup> Not only are significant acts such as suing a debtor or enforcing a judgment prohibited, but less dramatic acts are also prohibited. For example, mailing bills even though there is no threat to sue or take other collection action violates the automatic stay. *In re Robinson*, 2008 WL 4526183 (Bankr.E.D.Va.2008) ("By sending the invoices to the debtor, [the creditor] effectively sought payment of the prepetition amounts outside of the bankruptcy case, and as such, her actions violated the automatic stay"); *In re Torres Lopez*, 2006 WL 3898307 (Bankr.D.P.R. 2006) (collection letter advising that water, electricity and phone services in a condominium would be discontinued if payment was not received); *In re Crudup*, 287 B.R. 358 (Bankr.E.D.N.C.2002) (letters to debtor's wife and parents-in-law); *In re Wills*, 226 B.R. 369, 378 (Bankr.E.D.Va.1998) (sending invoices post-petition); *In re* 

 $<sup>^{7}</sup>$ Section 362(a)(6) provides that "a petition . . . operates as a stay, applicable to all entities, of . . . any act to collect, assess, or recover a claim against the debtor that arose before the commencement of the case."

Smith, 185 B.R. 871 (Bankr.M.D.Fla.1994) (letter to debtor's employer); Sechuan City, Inc. v. North American Motor Inns, Inc. (In re Sechuan City, Inc.), 96 B.R. 37 (Bankr.E.D.Pa.1989) (landlord posted signs at debtor-restaurant urging public not to patronize restaurant); In re Aponte, 82 B.R. 738 (Bankr.E.D.Pa.1988) (landlord's termination of electric service). Denying a condominium unit owner the right to vote at an annual or special meeting because pre-petition condominium fees are past due is similarly prohibited. It pressures a unit owner to pay his past due, pre-petition condominium fees.

The unit owners association argues that this case is different. It argues that the unit owners association is not denying the debtor its right to vote. Under Article IV, Section 7, it argues, a unit owner's right to vote exists only if the unit owner is not more than thirty days past due in the payment of his condominium fees. Since the debtor is past due in the payment of condominium fees, it just does not have a right to vote in the first place. Thus, the unit owners association is not taking any action to deny the debtor his right to vote.

Alternatively, the unit owners association argues, the debtor's right to vote is limited or encumbered with the restriction that it may not be exercised if a unit owner is more than thirty days past due in the payment of his condominium fees. In this case, the restriction or encumbrance arose prior to the filing of the petition in bankruptcy. Under the Bankruptcy Code, property of a debtor that becomes property of the estate does so subject to all restrictions existing when the petition in bankruptcy is filed. Thus, the unit owners association is not taking any action to deny the debtor its right to vote because the debtor's right to vote was restricted at the time it filed bankruptcy.

The arguments are not well taken. The fact remains, Article IV, Section 7 pressures the debtor to pay its past due pre-petition condominium fees. If the debtor pays the pre-petition

condominium fees, it can vote. If it does not pay them, it cannot vote. The ability to vote is determined by whether the debtor pays the pre-petition debt. He is penalized if he does not and is rewarded if he does.<sup>8</sup>

The Virginia Condominium Act makes clear that when a condominium unit owner's right to vote is created, it is not created subject to a condition, a limitation or a restriction. The right to vote is an intregal and inseparable part of the condominium regime itself. At this condominium, and in most others, votes are allocated in accordance with the undivided interests in the common elements. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.77(a). The undivided interests in the common elements was determined under Va.Code (1950) §55-79.55(a). The undivided interest in the common elements allocated to each unit may not be altered and may not be separated from the unit itself. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.55(f). The number of votes appertaining to any unit may not be altered. Va.Code (1950) §55-79-71(E). These provisions may not be altered by agreement and may not be waived. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.41:1. While the number of votes appertaining to a condominium unit or the weight of a particular unit owner's vote may vary, every unit owner has the right to vote. The right to vote does not fade in and out depending on whether condominium fees are paid or unpaid or on any other circumstance. Each condominium unit has as an inseparable bundle of rights that constitutes the condominium unit. The right to vote is a part of those inseparable rights.

The unit owners association's alternative argument, that Article IV, Section 7 is a restriction on the right to vote that is effective in bankruptcy is not well taken either. One Virginia circuit court held that a unit owner's right to vote may be restricted for non-payment of condominium fees. *Clark* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>A chapter 11 debtor may not pay pre-petition creditors after filing bankruptcy without court authorization. The purpose is to prevent some creditors from being favored over others, either because the debtor likes them or because the creditor can exert pressure to favor it over other creditors. One principal of bankruptcy is the equal treatment of all creditors.

v. Bay Point Condo Ass'n, Inc., 2003 WL 23095986 (Va.Cir.Ct.2003) (revocation of voting rights permissible under Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2(C)). However described, the restriction becomes effective only upon non-payment of condominium fees for a period of thirty days and has the intended effect of coercing payment of the delinquent fees just like other remedies the unit owners association has, such as suing for the unpaid condominium fees or filing and enforcing a lien. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.84.

Unit Owners Ass'n of BuildAmerica-1 v. Gillman, 223 Va. 752, 292 S.E.2d 378 (1982) and Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2 are instructive. In Gillman, the unit owners association imposed monetary fines against Gillman for violating the condominium's rules and regulations. The Virginia Supreme Court held the unit owners association could not impose monetary fines without statutory authority and that there was no such statutory authority. The Virginia General Assembly responded by enacting what is now Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2 which expressly grants the authority to impose penalties for failure to timely pay assessments. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2(A) only expressly allows suspension of a unit owner's right to use facilities or services for nonpayment of assessments more than sixty days past due and assessment of charges for violations of the condominium documents or the rules or regulations of the condominium. While it does not specifically address the suspension of the right to vote, Subsection C (a general provision carried over from Va.Code (1950) §55-79-80, the predecessor of Va.Code (1950) §55-79-80:2) provides that the statute will not be "construed to prohibit the grant, by the condominium instruments, of other powers and responsibilities" to the unit owners association of the Board of Directors. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2(C). The circuit court in Clark v. Bay Point Condo Ass'n, Inc., viewed this subsection as authority for a unit owners association to suspend voting rights while condominium fees are past due. Gillman, Clark and Va.Code (1950) §55-79.80:2 show that the suspension of a unit owner's right to vote is a remedy for nonpayment of condominium fees. Like other remedies, it can be effective. For example, Jane Brungard testified in this case that she paid \$555 in fines so she could vote and run for the Board of Directors. While the use of Article IV, Section 7 may be an effective remedy, when a petition in bankruptcy is filed the automatic stay prevents its further application.

If the unit owners association properly invoked Article IV, Section 7 pre-petition, it must stop using it when the unit owner files bankruptcy. A creditor who properly takes an act prior to the filing of a petition in bankruptcy to collect a debt, must stop the act upon the filing of the petition. "It is well established that even a technical stay violation (one committed without knowledge of the stay) can become willful. . . . if the creditor fails to remedy the violation after receiving notice of the automatic stay." *Kline v. Tiedemann (In re Kline)*, 424 B.R. 516, 524 (Bankr.D.N.M.2010). A creditor who caused a state court to issue a civil bench warrant for the arrest of a debtor who, prepetition, failed to appear in state court to answer interrogatories must cause the bench warrant to be withdrawn when the debtor files bankruptcy. *Galmore v. Dykstra (In re Galmore)*, 390 B.R. 901, 909-914 (Bankr.N.D.Ind. 2008). A creditor who issued a garnishment before a debtor files bankruptcy has the affirmative duty to promptly dismiss the garnishment upon filing of the bankruptcy petition. *In re Manuel*, 212 B.R. 517, 519 (Bankr.E.D.Va. 1997); *Baum v. United Va. Bank (In re Baum)*, 15 B.R. 538, 541 (Bankr.E.D.Va. 1981) (creditor has the "responsibility to stop

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Ms. Brungard testified that she was fined a total of \$555 because on one occasion she accompanied Ms. Hernandez into the manager's office and on another spoke with Mr. Cunningham, an attorney who apparently had previously represented the unit owners association. She further testified:

I feel like both of those were false charges. The only reason I paid the \$555 was because if I didn't pay it, I would be delinquent and would not have been able to run for the board. So it was to me a purely kangaroo court that they set up, but I paid it in order to run for the board.

the downhill snowballing of a continuing garnishment."); *In re Scroggin*, 364 B.R. 772, 779 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir.BAP 2007). A creditor who repossessed a debtor's car pre-petition, but has not sold it before the debtor files bankruptcy, must release the car back to the debtor. *In re Brown*, 237 B.R. 316 (Bankr.E.D.Va. 1999); *In re Young*, 193 B.R. 620, 621 (Bankr.D.D.C. 1996) (seized vehicle must be returned upon debtor giving adequate assurance). This case is no different. If the act to collect the past due condominium fees (that is, invoking Article IV, Section 7 denying the debtor its right to vote) commenced before the bankruptcy was filed, the unit owners association must stop the act after the filing of bankruptcy by permitting the debtor to vote. The fact that the penalty for not timely paying condominium fees is in the By-Laws changes nothing. It is an act, and, if continued, violates the automatic stay.

The court concludes that enforcing By-Laws Article IV, Section 7 for a pre-petition condominium fee violates the automatic stay.

## Did the Unit Owners Association Deny the Debtor its Right to Vote?

The unit owners association next contends that even if denying the debtor the right to vote at an annual meeting violates the automatic stay, it did not, in fact, deny the debtor its right to vote. In order to decide this issue, the court must determine what happened at the annual meeting.

Eight witnesses who were present at the meeting testified at the hearing. The testimony focused on two principal issues: Did Jane Brungard or Kevin Broncato first seek recognition from

the Chair, Dee Cuadros? Was there sufficient time after the voice vote was taken on the motion to adjourn for a unit owner to request a division of the assembly?<sup>10</sup>

Ms. Cuadros, the president of the association, chaired the annual meeting. While the proxies were being tallied to determine whether a quorum was present, the minutes of the last meeting were read and the association's attorney gave a report. Ms. Cuadros testified as to what then happened:

- Q Did there come a time during the meeting when you were informed whether a quorum had been obtained?
- A Yes.
- Q And who informed you of this?
- A Kevin Broncato.
- Q And what did you do when you were informed that no quorum had been obtained?
- A I read the he gave me this document that tells what the numbers were. I read them to the to the meeting and then I indicated that no business could be conducted because there was no quorum for the meeting and I was attempting to ask for a a motion to adjourn when Jane [Brungard] popped up with her motion which I declared her out of order and the first hand that that went up was Kevin Broncato's and so I called on him to make the motion which he did.

Tr. 134-135.11

- Q After you made the determination that a quorum did not exist, you asked for a motion to adjourn, didn't you?
- A I did.
- Q And the first person to respond was Jane Brungard who moved to adjourn for 30 days, is that correct?
- A Jane Brungard did respond. She was not she was not selected to make that –
- O You didn't select her?

(continued...)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>A division of the assembly is the request by any member to have a voice vote taken a second time, but by a different method, such as rasing hands or standing. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §4 at 49-50. (Sarah C. Robert et al. eds., De Capo Press, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. 2000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Ms. Cuadros also testified:

Other witnesses also testified to what happened and who first sought recognition of the Chair. The testimony is conflicting. Both counsel sought to show that some of the witnesses were in a better physical position to know who first sought recognition. After reviewing all of the evidence, the court concludes that while both Mr. Broncato and Ms. Brungard were substantially simultaneous in seeking recognition, Ms. Brungard was, in fact, first. The court reaches this conclusion because Ms. Cuadros, before recognizing Mr. Broncato, heard Ms. Brungard speak, looked at her, and spoke to her, ruling her out of order. Only then did she turn to Mr. Broncato and recognize him.<sup>12</sup>

Tr. at 24-25.

<sup>12</sup>It appears that Ms. Cuadros ruled Ms. Brungard out of order because Ms. Brungard stood and sought recognition while Ms. Cuadros expected members to raise their hands and wait to be recognized. Ms. Cuadros testified that "[M]y understanding of the process is that once I ask for the motion, I expect the – whoever wants to make a motion would raise their hand and wait to be recognized before they start talking and I – I ask the first one who hand goes up, if I possibly can." Tr. at 139. The association, Ms. Cuadros further testified, follows Robert's Rules of Order, which are to the contrary. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED states:

## Obtaining and Assigning the Floor

Before a member in an assembly can make a motion or speak in *debate*. . . . he must *obtain the floor;* that is, he must be *recognized* by the chair as having the exclusive right to be heard at that time. . . .

To claim the floor, a members rises at his place when no one else has the floor..., faces the chair, and says, "Mr. President," or "Mr. Chairman," or "Madam Chairman," or whatever is the chair's proper title. If the member is entitled to the floor at the time, the chair recognizes him.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §3 at 28. (Sarah C. Robert et al. eds., De Capo Press, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. 2000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>(...continued)

A No, I didn't.

Q But she was the first person to jump up and move to – to adjourn?

A She jumped up and – and moved to adjourn.

Q She was the first person to, is that right?

A She was not the first person to raise her hand or his hand to make that motion.

Q She was the first person to speak?

A She was the first person to speak, which she often is.

Q And you told Ms. Brungard that you would not recognize her because Mr. Broncato, who was sitting in the back of the room had his hand up first?

A That is correct.

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The second question that the parties focused on was whether there was adequate time after the vote on Mr. Broncato's motion was taken for the debtor – or any other unit owner – to request a division of the assembly, that is, for the vote to be taken again but with the proponents and opponents standing or using some method more reliable than a voice vote. The unit owners association argued that the failure to make such a request when the request could have been made showed that there was no denial by the unit owners association of the debtor's right to vote. The debtor simply did not fully exercise its rights in this instance. The debtor responded that the undue speed with which the vote was taken, the result was announced and the meeting was adjourned denied it the ability to seek a division and was a part of the denial of its right to vote.

Again, the eight witnesses who attended the meeting had similar, but not identical recollections. Generally, those in favor of the motion to adjourn testified that there was sufficient time and those against the motion that there was not enough time. Ms. Cuadros testified about the vote. She testified, commencing immediately after her testimony set out above:

- Q What motion did he make?
- A [Kevin Broncato] made a motion to adjourn.
- Q Was it seconded?
- A Yes, it was.
- O And what did you do then?
- A I waited a reasonable amount of time and then I adjourned the meeting.
- Q Well, did you ask for a vote on the motion?
- A Oh, yes, I did. Absolutely.
- Q And what type of vote was taken?

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- A It was voice vote and clearly the ayes had it and so after a reasonable amount of time, as I said, I declared the meeting adjourned.
- Q And can you explain to the Court how you went about proceeding with the voice vote? What did you say to the people gathered at the meeting?
- A I said, "All those in favor of adjourning the meeting, please say aye."
- Q And was there a response to that?
- A There was.
- Q What did you do then?
- A Then I asked if there were any opposed to it and there were some people that some voices that did not want the adjournment.
- Q Do you know who those were?
- A I have no idea.
- Q And based on what you heard, what did you do then?
- A I told the meeting that the ayes had it and I adjourned the meeting.
- Q And did you wait any period of time between saying the ayes have it and adjourning the meeting?
- A It was a reasonable amount of time, yes.
- Q Did anyone attempt to make a motion during that time?
- A No.
- Q You know Lindsay Wilson, correct?
- A Yes, I do.
- Q And she was present at the meeting?
- A She was.
- Q Do you know how Gordon Properties voted on the motion to adjourn?

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- A No, I don't.
- Q Did Gordon Properties make any motions after you stated that the motion to adjourn had carried?
- A No, they didn't.
- Q And you then concluded the meeting?
- A I then concluded the meeting, yes.

#### Tr. at 135-136.

Lindsay Wilson, the representative of the debtor, testified to the same event:

- Q And after Mr. Broncato made his motion to adjourn, tell me what Ms. Cuadros did?
- A Someone someone quickly seconded the motion and Ms. Cuadros very, very quicky, almost more quickly than my ear could hear it and it could get to my brain and process what was happening, Ms. Cuadros asked, "Any yeas? Any nays?" and people it was such a cacophony of sounds. It was almost happening it appeared to be happening simultaneously, but there were yeas and nays being shouted from the audience at that time.
- Q And then what did she what did she do?
- A Then she made some motion. I don't know if she shut slammed a book, rapped her hand on the table, some motion and said, "We are adjourned" so quickly my head was spinning.
- Q In your estimate, Ms. Wilson, in the time that Ms. Cuadros asked for the motion to adjourn until the time that she slapped down and said meeting adjourned, how much time elapsed?
- A Oh, my. It was a matter of seconds. It was stunningly fast. It felt -I I couldn't even process that it had happened. I felt like -I felt like a card trick had just been played in front of me. I was it took my breath away. It -10 seconds, maybe.

Tr. at 78-79.

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Ms. Brungard testified that "it happened within seconds. It was very fast." Tr. at 89. Martina Hernandez agreed.<sup>13</sup> Richard Mendelson, an attorney who had been practicing law since 1969 and was appointed by the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria as co-conservator of Julia Langdon, one of the four members of the debtor, testified that the matter took only "[a] matter of seconds." Tr. at 110.

Mr. Broncato who made the motion to adjourn was asked if "there was any opportunity after [Ms. Cuadros] said the ayes have it for a person present at the meeting to make any motion?" He testified that "I believe there was sufficient time. It's – it was roughly the standard operation, the amount of time that the vote is take at almost all meetings that I've been present at." Tr. at 146. Corey Brooks, a member of the Board of Directors appointed to fill a vacancy, thought that there was "a meaningful pause of several seconds." Tr. 161.<sup>14</sup>

The ability of a unit owner to ask for a division after the vote and before Ms. Cuadros adjourned the meeting depends not only on the clapsed time but also the orderliness of the meeting

Tr. at 99.

<sup>14</sup>Lt. Brooks testified:

Tr. at 161.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Ms. Hernandez testified:

Q . . . From the time that Ms. Cuadros asked for a motion to adjourn until the time that she actually adjourned the meeting, in your estimate, how much time expired between the [m]?

A It took less than a second. It was pretty fast. It was – I mean, I was amazed by how, you know, they were carrying the whole process and so, yeah, it was that fast. It was less than a second, actually.

Q . . . How much – did she – how much time passed from when the chair stated that the motion to adjourn carried to the time the meeting was actually adjourned?

A Oh, there was a meaningful pause of several seconds.

Q Enough time for someone to stand up and raise their hand?

A Certainly.

at that time. Ms. Cuadros testified that "It was a very quiet meeting." Tr. at 137. 15 Mr. Broncato agreed. 16

Ms. Wilson disagreed. She thought that the meeting "completely disintegrated." Mr. Mendelson testified:

- Q Now you testified that when the motion was deemed to have carried, it was a matter of seconds before the meeting was deemed adjourned. Wasn't there sufficient time for someone to stand up to be recognized?
- A Well, within those few seconds. What happened was in the in the at the point where she was taking the voice vote, there were several lots of people several people speaking at once and when she declared that the ayes have it, it was over.
- Q Well, but you said there was a matter of seconds.
- A That's right.

<sup>15</sup>Ms. Cuadros testified:

- Now you've heard testimony from a number of witnesses that at some point after the motion to adjourn the meeting became disorderly, is that true?
- A No, it isn't. It was a very quiet meeting.

Tr. at 137.

<sup>16</sup>Mr. Broncato testified:

- Q And at that time of the meeting, was it was the meeting in disorder or what was going on at that time?
- A At the time I I wouldn't say it was in disorder. I I would say everyone's still in their seat and/or standing at the side and then once the meeting was adjourned, people got up.

Tr. at 146.

<sup>17</sup>Ms. Wilson testified:

At that point I stood up, said, "This is not okay. What's happening here? Did I just see that happen? What's going on?" I stood in my chair, raised my hands again to say, "What is happening here?" and at that point the meeting had completely disintegrated. There was no longer a forum in which civilized speech could take place. There was arguing and shouting. People were moving from their seats. The board was departing the room. It all had completely disintegrated.

Tr. at 79.

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- Q And isn't it true that if you're sitting there, you can stand up in a second, can't you?
- A I suppose somebody could stand up if they could understand in the chaos what was going on.
- Q But nobody did that on behalf of Gordon Properties, right?
- A Not that I saw under the circumstances, but it was a matter of confusion.

THE COURT:

Excuse me. Would you repeat the last answer: I didn't hear

it.

THE WITNESS:

Not that I saw. There was quite a bit of confusion and in the

course of that, Ms. Cuadros says, "We're adjourned."

Tr. at 113-114.

The court concludes that the meeting was an orderly meeting until Ms. Cuadros as chair of the meeting announced that there was no quorum and invited a motion from the floor. From that moment on, the meeting became increasingly disorderly. At all times, Ms. Cuadros had the ability to bring the meeting to order but failed to do so and pressed forward with Mr. Broncato's motion to adjourn sine die. The court finds that in light of the growing disorder of the meeting, there was insufficient time within which any member could reasonably have requested a division of the assembly or otherwise objected to the motion or the ruling of the chair.

These acts and the conduct of the unit owners association denied the debtor its right to vote.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>In any meeting such as the annual meeting under consideration, individual's perceptions and recollections of what transpired vary. People were seated throughout the room. Each had a better vantage point for some observations and a poorer vantage point for other observations. It is unlikely that everyone heard every word spoken. There were competing demands for attention. There were competing objectives. There were different motives. All of these factors color an individual's perception and recollection. The role of the court is to determine from the evidence presented what actually happened. In doing so, the court gives greater weight to Mr. Mendelson's testimony. He was the only witness who had no personal stake in the process. Although he is a co-conservator of Julia Langdon, one of the four members of the debtor, the outcome does not affect him personally and he has a fiduciary duty to Ms. Langdon.

#### Did the Unit Owners Association Violate the Automatic Stay?

Simply showing that the unit owners association denied the debtor its right to vote is not enough to show a violation of the automatic stay. The two questions counsel focused on are not the best focus of inquiry to answer this question. The better inquiry is not narrowly on who should have been recognized, whether there was sufficient time for an objection to the vote or a request for a division of the assembly, or whether these acts and the other conduct were a denial of the debtor's right to vote; but, more broadly, including but not limited to, how the meeting was conducted from the time Mr. Broncato reported the absence of a quorum to the time Ms. Cuadros adjourned the meeting.

Robert's Rules of Order required that the meeting be conducted differently. After recognizing Mr. Broncato, hearing a second and stating the motion before the assembly, Robert's Rules of Order required the chair to recognize Ms. Brungard. Ms. Cuadros knew that Ms. Brungard wanted to make a motion to adjourn to a set time and date. That motion is a privileged motion and is in order when a motion to adjourn sine die, that is, adjourn without fixing a date and time for meeting, is before the assembly. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §22.20 Had Ms.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §22 at 235.

Robert's Rules of Order also states:

(continued...)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>This motion should not have been unexpected. When no quorum was obtained at the 2007 annual meeting which Ms. Cuadros chaired, the meeting was adjourned twice in unsuccessful efforts to obtain a quorum. Testimony of Ms. Cuadros. Tr. at 132.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Robert's Rules of Order states:

The privileged motion to Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn . . . [t]akes precedence over all other motions and yields to nothing. . . The privileged motion to Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn can be moved even after the assembly has voted to adjourn, provided that the chair has not yet declared the assembly adjourned.

Cuadros not known what Ms. Brungard wanted to say, she still had the obligation to recognize Ms. Brungard. Had Ms. Brungard's comments been out of order, she could have ruled her out of order as she had previously done. The role of the chair is to be impartial and to assure the fair and orderly dispatch of the business before the assembly.<sup>21</sup> That means that all members who have a right to speak should be recognized, not ignored as Ms. Brungard was in this instance.

Ms. Cuadros should have, and could have, restored order after the vote on Mr. Broncato's motion was taken and before she announced the result of the vote. She heard the objections to the vote and should have interpreted them as a request for a division. It was not necessary for Ms. Brungard or anyone else to have been recognized before requesting a division. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §29 at 271 states that a division of the assembly "[i]s in order without obtaining the floor, when another has the floor and at any time after the question has been put, even

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §21 at 227.

to Which to Adjourn . . .

If the presiding officer is a member of the society, he has – as an individual – the same *rights* in debate as any other member; but the impartiality required of the chair in an assembly precludes his exercising these rights while he is presiding. Normally, especially in a large body, he should have nothing to say on the merits of pending questions. On certain occasions – which should be extremely rare – the presiding officer may believe that a crucial factor relating to such a question has been overlooked and that his obligation as a member to call attention to the point outweighs his duty to preside at that time. To participate in debate, he must relinquish the chair . . . The presiding officer who relinquished the chair then should not return to it until the pending main question has been disposed of, since he has shown himself to be a partisan as far as that particular matter is concerned. Indeed, unless a presiding officer is extremely sparing in leaving the chair to take part in debate, he may destroy members' confidence in the impartiality of his approach to the task of presiding.

Here, there is no question about Ms. Cuadros participating in debate. She did not. But, the manner in which she handled Mr. Broncato's motion to adjourn brings into question the "confidence in the impartiality of [her] approach to the task of presiding."

 $<sup>^{20}</sup>$ (...continued)
The privileged motion to Adjourn. . . [t]akes precedence over all motions except the privileged motion to Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn . . . It yields to the privileged motion to Fix the Time

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED § 43, discusses the chair's duty to remain impartial during debates. It states:

after the vote has been announced"; that is "[d]oes not require a second"; and that it [d]oes not require a vote, since a single member can demand a division."

Even if Ms. Cuadros did not hear the request for a division or did not properly interpret the demands as a request for a division, she should have, on her own initiative, proceeded with a recount by a method other than voice vote. She knew at the time the vote was taken that the debtor held a majority of votes present. She knew that Ms. Brungard and Ms. Hernandez held proxies. These three individuals were the deciding votes on the motion.<sup>22</sup> She knew that each unit owner's vote had held a different weight. She knew that there was substantial opposition to the motion. She testified that she "heard a number of voices vote in opposition. I don't know who they were . . . any more than I knew who voted for adjournment." Tr. at 26. Voice votes are a simple and effective means to determine whether a motion passes of fails where most of the assembly is of the same opinion. However, it becomes less reliable as the level of opposition increases particularly in an annual meeting of a condominium unit owners association where there is significant opposition, votes are weighted and individuals hold multiple proxies. It is wholly unreliable when one voice determines the outcome of a votes and the chair does not know how that voice voted. In the circumstances presented at this annual meeting, unless Ms. Cuadros determined how Ms. Wilson voted, she was obligated to retake the vote by a method other than a voice vote. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §4 at 48-49, states:

Verifying an inconclusive vote. A voice vote. . . may sometimes be inconclusive . . . If the chair feels that members may question a somewhat close result of which he is reasonably convinced, he can first say, "The ayes [or "the noes"] seem to have it." The chair then pauses, and any member who doubts the result is thus invited to demand verification of the vote by a division, . . . . If no member makes such a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>In fact, Ms. Wilson as the debtor's representative was the sole deciding vote.

demand or states that he doubts the result, the chair continues, "The ayes have it...,"... If the chair is in actual doubt in the case of such a vote, however, he should not announce a result, but should immediately retake the vote – strictly speaking, always as a rising vote... If, after a vote has been retaken as an uncounted rising vote, the chair finds himself still unable to determine the result, he should take the vote a third time as a *counted* rising vote.

Robert's Rules of Order continue in Section 29:

VOTE RETAKEN AT CHAIR'S INSTITATIVE. The chair has the responsibility of obtaining a correct expression of the will of the assembly. If he is uncertain of the result of a vote or if he feels that the vote is unrepresentative, the chair can on his own accord take the vote again by a rising vote.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED §29 at 272.

There were multiple failures at the meeting. The chair failed to maintain order during the meeting and thereby prevented business that should properly have been brought before the association from being presented. The chair failed to recognize Ms. Brungard for the purpose of making a motion to adjourn to a fixed time and date. The chair failed to retake the vote on Mr. Broncato's motion both because she failed to recognize the request for a division and failed to retake the vote on her own initiative. The chair wrongly ruled that the motion passed when it failed by an overwhelming majority. The chair wrongly adjourned the meeting.

The debtor argues that the conduct violated the automatic stay, Section 362(a)(6) of the Untied States Bankruptcy Code. Its argument relies on the undisputed fact that it held a majority of votes at the annual meeting and voted against the motion to adjourn. It argues that if its votes had been counted, the motion would have failed. Since the motion passed, it concludes that its votes were not counted and that it was denied it right to vote, an action that, it says, necessarily violated the automatic stay.

The unit owners association counters that the debtor was allowed to fully participate in the annual meeting and to vote. If it disagreed with the ruling of the chair, the debtor through Ms. Wilson could have sought recognition from the chair and asked for a division of the assembly, that is, a recount of the vote. The debtor, it argues, did not do this, and thus, the unit owners association did nothing wrong.

The weakness of the debtor's argument is that while it is true that the debtor voted against the motion to adjourn, the motion failed even without the debtor's votes. Ms. Brungard and Ms. Hernandez voted their proxies against the motion. They constituted a clear majority against the motion even if the debtor's votes were not counted. Yet, the chair wrongly announced that it had passed. It was not that the debtor's votes were not counted. None of the votes against the motion were counted.

The weakness of the unit owners association's argument is that the chair mismanaged the annual meeting from the time she was advised that no quorum was obtained until she adjourned the meeting. She failed to recognize members who had a right to be recognized. She failed to maintain order. She failed to properly conduct the vote. In the circumstances of the growing disorder and the mismanagement, neither the debtor nor Ms. Brungard had any effective remedy. The chair's conduct was effectively the same as denying them their right to vote.

Looking at the overall circumstances, it is clear that there are major differences of opinion between the current Board of Directors and the debtor. One issue is the extent of the liability of the restaurant unit for condominium fees. The companion bankruptcy case of Condominium Services, Inc., an entity related to the debtor, reflects another issue, the propriety of the discharge of

Condominium Services as managing agent for the condominium. These flow into a more general issue, the management of the building and the membership of the Board of Directors.<sup>23</sup>

In the struggle for control of the Board of Directors, at least four unit owners – three of whom were members of the Board of Directors – were present at the annual meeting but were not counted for quorum purposes: Ms. Cuadros, Mr. Broncato, Lt. Brooks and Mr. Terry. The By-Laws and the Virginia Code are clear, a unit owner present in person or by proxy is counted for quorum purposes. Va.Code (1950) §55-79.76(a); By-Laws Article IV, Section 5. It is not known if other directors or other unit owners were present but not counted for quorum purposes. If there were, there may well have been a quorum present.

The reasons the four gave for not registering show that they did not want the meeting to go forward. Ms. Cuadros, when asked why she did not register stated, "Well, I don't know. I just didn't feel like I wanted to vote that day." Tr. 141. Mr. Broncato stated, "I did not believe that it was in the interests of the association to see – to actually have a majority at this time. So I personally decided that it was not something I wanted to see happen." Tr. 154. Mr. Terry testified that he did not want to be a part of the quorum because, "A lot of things had been going on that concerned me about the integrity of the vote, and, honestly, I felt that it was probably better to not have a quorum that night than potentially let some of the behavior I was concerned about unfairly influence the vote." Tr. 176. Lt. Brooks' answer was lengthier. The essence was that he did not want the debtor "taking over the board." Tr. 165.24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>See Testimony of Bryan L. Sells, Tr. at 48; Testimony of Ms. Brungard, Tr. 92 - 94; Testimony of Ms. Hernandez, Tr. at 98 - 102; Testimony of Kevin Broncato, Tr. at 154; Testimony of Lt. Brooks, Tr. at 165; Testimony of Jerry Terry, Tr. at 176.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>Lt. Brooks testified:

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The idea of not holding a meeting by not achieving a quorum did not arise for the first time at the meeting itself. A quorum was not achieved for the 2007 or the 2008 annual meetings. The idea was discussed among the unit owners before the meeting. Mr. Broncato, the Chairman of the Elections Committee, testified that he was aware of these conversations before the meeting. He testified:

I've seen people say to each other that it was possible that they didn't want to vote. I did not and I explicitly told them I am not going to tell you one way or the other what to do. It's not my responsibility. It's my responsibility to make sure this election is held in fairness. You all decide what you're going to do.

<sup>24</sup>(...continued)

THE COURT: . . . Why is it that you didn't register your proxy?

THE WITNESS: There was no vote that was held. I was waiting to see if we were going to approach quorum

or if there was going to be a quorum.

THE COURT: I don't understand that answer.

THE WITNESS: Well, if we didn't have a quorum, then there would be no reason to submit any sort of ballot.

If we were so far away from a quorum, then it also didn't make sense to -

THE COURT: When were you going to make that decision?

THE WITNESS: Towards the end of the evening, sir.
THE COURT: You mean after the meeting started?

THE WITNESS: No. sir. Close enough to time. Cince they started -

THE COURT: Before the meeting.

THE WITNESS: When they closed off the polls. Yes, sir.

THE COURT: So you could be last in line to the polls, so to speak?

THE WITNESS: Essentially. Yes, sir.

THE COURT: So you're going to pay attention to what was going on?

THE WITNESS: Certainly.

THE COURT: And then you were going to make a strategic decision as to whether you were going to

register and be counted as a part of the quorum, is that right?

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: And what factors entered into your mind as to whether you should register to be counted as

a part of the quorum versus not registering to be counted as part of the quorum?

THE WITNESS: If it appeared as though we were approaching quorum, then I certainly wanted to be counted,

have my vote heard. If it looked as though there was no possibility of a quorum, then I saw no reason to put the ballot forward. There had been a lot of litigation going on. There's been a lot of questions about privacy, who might get the ballots based on court decisions, and I

wanted to preserve my privacy or how I was voting, if at all possible.

THE COURT: And do you think that those types of concerns kept people from coming to the meeting?

THE WITNESS: I think those types of concerns kept people from coming to the meeting and also the

possibility of Gordon Properties or its representatives taking over the board or the building as it were. I think a lot of people are concerned about that and could lead to some of the

apathy as well as some of the staying home when the voting is taking place.

Tr. 164-165.

Tr. at 155. Similarly, Lt. Brooks testified that, "There was a lot of talk over the building about whether one should or should not, but I did not come down nor did I encourage anyone to do one thing or the other." Tr. 163. They testified that they did nothing to discourage this action. It can be inferred that they did nothing to encourage attendance at the annual meeting either.

Preventing the election of the Board of Directors by preventing the annual meeting from being held by absence of a quorum was accomplished by Ms. Cuadros. After Mr. Broncato told her that there was no quorum she recognized him to make a motion to adjourn. He had not registered for the meeting. Even though she knew that Ms. Brungard wanted to make a privileged motion to adjourn to a set time and date for the annual meeting to be reconvened, she refused to recognize her and improperly took the vote on the motion to adjourn.<sup>25</sup> She was an experienced chairperson, skilled at running meetings.<sup>26</sup> She knew that the votes were weighed and that the outcome of the voice vote was not based on the volume of the voices for or against but the weight of the votes. She knew that Ms. Wilson represented the debtor at the meeting and that Ms. Wilson's sole voice — however loud or soft — controlled the outcome of the vote. Nonetheless, she testified, she did not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>The By-Laws envision a reasonable adjournment. By-Laws Article JV, Section 6 states:

If any meeting of members cannot be organized because a quorum has not attended, the members who are present, either in person or by proxy, may, except as otherwise provided by law, adjourn the meeting to a time not less than forty-eight (48) hours from the time the original meeting was called.

Such an adjournment permits the association to obtain more proxies and better attendance so that business may be transacted, such as electing members of the board of directors. Proxies "terminate after the first meeting held on or after the date of that proxy or any recess or adjournment of that meeting." Va.Code (1950) §55-79.77(D). See also By-Laws Article IV, Section 8. Under Mr. Broncato's motion, the proxies expired upon adjournment. Under Ms. Brungard's motion, the proxies would have remained in full force and effect (unless revoked) until after the reconvened meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>Ms. Cuadros has resided in the condominium for thirty years. She was elected to the Board of Directors in 2005 and was elected president in 2006. She has chaired five annual meetings which includes the annual meetings since 2007 for which no quorum was obtained and at least two continuances of them. The manner in which she ran the 2009 meeting showed a familiarity and felicity in running the annual meeting. It showed a knowledge of the basics of Robert's Rules of Order. Neither inexperience nor incompatence is an explanation for the manner in which she conducted the meeting.

know who voted for or against the motion.<sup>27</sup> She wrongly ruled that the motion passed. Without adequate time for any further participation from the members, she adjourned the meeting.

The immediate purpose of the actions at the annual meeting was to continue in power the incumbent Board of Directors. In addition to Ms. Cuadros' actions, Mr. Broncato who had not registered for the meeting made the motion to adjourn and Lt. Brooks and Mr. Terry who had not registered voted in favor of it. By ignoring Ms. Brungard and her motion to set a date and time for the annual meeting to reconvene, Ms. Cuadros made it more likely that there would be no election for a year. By adjourning sine die, the existing proxies expired. Both Ms. Brungard and Ms. Hernandez expended significant effort to obtain the proxies. Now they have to start all over.

The conduct at the meeting and the motive to prevent the debtor from "taking over the board" show an abuse of power. The evidence is not sufficient to show that the acts taken at the annual meeting were a part of an effort to collect pre-petition condominium fees. The deciding factor is that the debtor was not singled out for special treatment. Even without its vote, the chair ruled that the motion to adjourn failed. Ms. Brungard and Ms. Hernandez voted their proxies against the motion. Their combined vote, without the debtor's vote, was more than sufficient to defeat the motion to adjourn. In these circumstances, the conduct at the annual meeting was not an act to collect a pre-petition condominium assessment, but to improperly continue the incumbent Board in office for another year.

#### **Conclusion**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>The court does not credit Ms. Cuadros's testimony that she did not register to vote because she did not feel like voting that day or that she did not know Ms. Wilson voted against the motion to adjourn.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>M. Brungard acted independently of the debtor. Tr. at 91-92.

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The debtor's motion will be denied. It should be made clear that the reason for denying the motion is that this court does not have jurisdiction to correct improper corporate actions absent a violation of the automatic stay. The Virginia circuit court has that jurisdiction and is the proper forum. This court's jurisdiction is limited to bankruptcy matters, one of which is the enforcement of the automatic stay. The motion was properly brought. The unit owners association's conduct at the annual meeting was improper. However, having concluded that this was an abuse of power and not a violation of the automatic stay, this court has no jurisdiction to correct the abuse.

Alexandria, Virginia June 2, 2010

/s/ Robert G. Mayer
Robert G. Mayer
United States Bankruptcy Judge

copies to:

Donald F. King Linda S. Broyhill

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The First Owners' Association of Forty Six Hundred Condominium, Inc.

4600 Duke Street Suite 400 Alexandria, VA 22304 (703) 751-4600 Fax (703) 751-1120

September 29, 2010

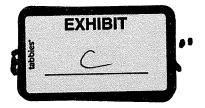
# 2010 ANNUAL MEETING POSTPONED \*\*\*URGENT NOTICE TO OWNERS\*\*\*

Dear Unit Owner,

The Board of Directors regrets that it has become necessary to postpone the 2010 Annual Meeting of the First Owners' Association of 4600 Duke Street. Our legal counsel has analyzed our legal situation in the current litigation with a unit owner which filed for bankruptcy protection and has advised us that proceeding with the Annual Meeting without a court decision on the voting issue would not be advisable and would put the Association at risk. Although we requested an expedited hearing and expected to have a decision by the courts earlier this month, a decision will not be obtained for some months. Also, there has recently been improper, and likely illegal, campaign activity that has invalidated an unknown number of proxy forms. Thus, the Annual Meeting cannot be held on October 6 and will be rescheduled once clarification of these critical issues is provided by the courts.

FOA Legal Counsel offers the following description of our dilemma:

With respect to the issue of whether a delinquent unit owner which has filed for bank-uptcy (in this case, Gordon Properties, LLC) should be allowed to vote at the upcoming Annual Meeting, we believe the Board should postpone the meeting until such time as a final decision has been obtained from the federal courts as to whether enforcement of the voter eligibility requirements of the Association's Bylaws violates the automatic stay. Otherwise, the Board is placed in the untenable position of potentially violating the stay, and subjecting the Association to sanctions and other penalties if Gordon Properties is not allowed to vote, or allowing Gordon Properties to vote in violation of the Bylaws and the Condominium Act and potentially having to throw out the results of any election if the appellate court subsequently agrees that enforcement of the Bylaws as to Gordon Properties does not violate the automatic stay. Notwithstanding the Association's efforts to obtain a binding court decision on this issue, the conflict between the apparent holding by Judge Mayer in the Bankruptcy Court and the clear provisions of the Association's Bylaws poses an insoluble dilemma for the Board and the Association which almost forces the Association to choose among alternatives which are all fraught with risk.



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An additional factor is the Board's discovery that an unknown individual distributed to unit owners a flyer offering a chance to win a free HDTV theatre system if the unit owners will send their proxies to an anonymous post office box address. This activity, however, appears to be an illegal raffle under Virginia Code 18.2-340 et seq. In addition, the collection of proxies by an anonymous person or entity (an "undisclosed principal") would also violate established agency rules related to the proper collection of and validity of proxies. Moreover, since the person soliciting the proxies is unknown, it will be impossible to identify any proxies obtained through this improper solicitation. Use of the improper proxies will taint the integrity of any election or vote at the 2010 Annual Meeting, Accordingly, the Board should postpone the meeting to reissue new proxy forms to ensure the validity of all proxies to be used at the Annual Meeting.

Therefore, based on the analysis and recommendations by our legal counsel, following yesterday's unsuccessful effort at mediation with Gordon Properties, the Board of Directors believes that the most prudent and fiscally responsible course of action is to postpone the Annual Meeting until we receive the necessary legal guidance from the courts and have time to issue new proxy forms. As unit owners and members of the Board of Directors, we are doing our best to comply with the law, to obtain a quorum for the Annual Meeting, and to have a fair election which will not generate even more expensive and unproductive litigation.

We will keep you advised as we learn more about these issues and obtain further rulings from the courts. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we seek to resolve these critical issues in the best interests of all owners.

For the Board of Directors,

De Cuadros

Dewanda F. Cuadros

President